## STARS STRIPES.

After Series win, Boston parties like it's 1918

ton parties it's 1918

Back page
World Strice MVP Marry Ramirez

ACH Kevlar helmet gets raves from survivor

Page 4



Improved armor has troops feeling safer

Page 6

Volume 2 No 204 @ EDSS 2004 MIDEAST EDITIO

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2004

# **Eight Marines killed** by car bomb in Iraq

U.S. attacks insurgent positions ahead of Fallujah assault Page 3



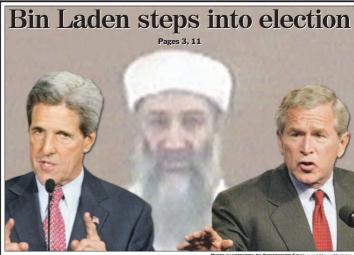


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CHRISTOPHER SIX/Stars and Stripes/AP photos

Arab television station Al-lazeera on Friday broadcast a new videotape of Osama bin Laden, during which the al-Qaida leader for the first time publicly took responsibility for the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks. The implications of his appearance just days before the U.S. presidential elections raised concerns for both Democratic challenger Sen. John Kerry and President Bush, the Republican incumbent.

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## Ne ws Tracker ... What's new with old news

#### States

Penn. absentee ballots: Republicans and the father of a serviceman sued Democratic Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell on Friday, hoping to extend to 30 days the deadline for counting overseas military and civilian ballots for presi-

The move came just hours after a federal judge approved a settlement between Rendell and the parents of two other servicemen who had also sued over the ballot counting. Rendell agreed to extend the deadline by eight days.

But the Republican State Committee and the father of a soldier stationed at the American Embassy in Ethiopia said eight days was not enough and asked a state court to order officials to count ballots for a month.

Coors Senate campaign: A political watchdog group Friday accused Coors Brewing Co. of giving the U.S. Senate cam-



The ads in the Rocky Mountain News and The Denver Post feature a snowcapped peak and invite readers to visit a Web site detailing the company's environmental activities. It also touted the

contribution to Colorado

In a letter to Coors CEO Leo Kiely, Colorado Common Cause executive director Peter Maysmith asked the company to stop running the ads, calling it "completely inappropriate to attempt to influence a U.S. Senate race".

Fla. right-to-die case: A feeding tube for a severely brain-damaged woman can't be removed until appeals are exhausted in her parents' fight to have a new trial in the long-running right-to-die case, a judge ruled Friday.

An attorney for Schiavo's husband, Michael, said the order could mean months and possibly years of delay and he would seek to have it overturned.

At issue is a request for a new trial by Terri Schiavo's parents, Bob and Mary Schindler, who say if their daughter indeed did not want to be kept alive artificially, as her husband says, she no longer would have that wish given recent statements from the pope.

"Fahrenheit 9/11": An online pay-per-view showing of Michael Moore's controversial

anti-Bush documentary "Fahrenheit 9/11" will be released on the eve of the presidential election, the Internet movie provider CinemaNow announced Fri-

day.

Viewers can see the film Monday by logging on to the company's Web site at 8 p.m.
EST and paying \$9.95,

said the company's chief executive officer, Curt Marvis. It also will be made available in December.

He said Moore and Fellowship Adventure Group, one of the film's distributors, have agreed to donate their share of the profits from Monday's showing to a charity to benefit veterans.

Cassini spacecraft: Scientists say the

Cassini spacecraft is sending back evidence that Saturn's planet-size moon Titan has some familiar features, but that it still remains one of the strangest worlds.

Unlike the airless moons and space rocks that NASA can photograph with startling clarity, Titan, hundreds of millions of miles from Earth, has long stymied scientists because its surface is shrouded by a thick atmosphere of nitrogen and methane.

That has forced scientists to create theories about the surface from observations of the hydrocarbon-laced atmosphere. Scientists believe seas or lakes of methane could form as organic compounds fall out of the atmosphere and collect on the surface.

#### **Business**

Internet music sharing: Sony BMG Music Entertainment and online peer-to-peer software distributor Grokster are working on a new venture that is expected to offer paid and free song downloads over the Internet, sources say.

Details of the venture, dubbed Mashboxxx, haven't been finalized but the service would allow users to download promotional versions of songs by Sony BMG acts at no charge and buy licensed versions, sources familiar with the venture said on condition of anonymity.

#### World

U.N. war crimes tribunal: Faced with U.S. and European Union demands to extradite top war crimes suspects to the U.N. tribunal or face sanctions, the Bosnian Serb police searched homes early Saturday in a hunt for an indicted suspect.

Police searched several houses in an attempt to apprehend Gojko Jankovic — the Bosnian Serb wartime deputy commander of military police — in the eastern town Foca, 45 miles southeast of Sarajevo, said police spokesman Radovan Pejic.

Jankovic was not found and the operation was canceled, he said.

The action came amid reports that the United States and the European Union may slap sanctions on the Bosnian Serbs for failing to cooperate with the U.N. war crimes tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands. Jankovic is one of the fugitives wanted by the court.

Deadly Thailand riot: More than 1,100 Muslims detained after a riot were freed Saruday, as the government tried to ease anger in Thailand's restive south over the deaths of dozens of accused rioters — including 78 who perished in military custody.

The army also lifted a curfew imposed in parts of Narathiwat, the province when thousands of Muslim youths besieged a police station Monday to demand the release of six men they believed were unjustly accused of giving arms to Islamic separatists.

The 78 Muslim detainees suffocated or were crushed to death when security forces piled them into military trucks along with more than 1,200 others. At least seven others died during the riot, apparently shot by security forces.

Philippine Muslims: Muslim separatist rebels said Saturday they are determined to peacefully resolve their three-decade rebellion in the southern Philippines.

Mohaqher Iqbal, chief peace negotiator for the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, said rebel leaders assured members of an international cease-fire monitoring group that they will pursue peace talks with the Philippine government "until a just, comprehensive and honorable peace settlement is achieved."

The cease-fire monitoring team is composed of 10 soldiers from Brunei and 50 from Malaysia.

The monitors will be deployed in the



Peterson trial: Jackie Peterson, mother of Scott Peterson, exits the San Mahec County Superior Courthouse with family pastor Brooks Gibbs after a day in court during the Brooks Gibbs after a day in court during the Scott Peterson double-murder trial in Red-wood City, Calif, on Friday, Peterson is accused of two counts of murder for the deaths of his wife, Leaf Peterson, 27, and the couple's unborn son. A judge has ruled the jury may consider a lesser murder charge that would spare Peterson the death penalty. Legal experts call this a victory for the prosecution because this could make it

southern cities of Iligan, Davao, and Cotabato, and will file reports of any encounters between guerrillas and government troops.

Turkey and EU: Holding referendums in European countries over whether Turkey can join the European Union would amount to "clear discrimination," Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said in comments published Friday.

"No such referendum has ever been held for EU countries, (or) for those that have joined," Erdogan was quoted as saying in an interview with Italian paper La Repubblica. "I therefore see no reason to hold a vote specially on us."

The EU recommended earlier this month that talks begin on making Turkey a member. EU leaders will decide whether to start entry negotiations with Ankara at a December summit.

Madrid train bombings: Police have arrested three ambulance crew members who took photos and video footage of people killed in the Madrid train bombings and posted them on a Web page, authorities said Saturday.

Police acted on orders from Juan del Olmo, the judge probing the March 11 attacks that killed 191 people, the National Police said in a statement.

The police launched their probe on Oct. 22 after 34 photos and a video clip — all showing gruesome pictures of mutilated bodies — were displayed on the Internet.

The three suspects were arrested over the past few days, the police statement said. The names of those arrested were not given.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

## 8 Marines killed in Iraq

#### 9 others wounded in bloodiest day of war since May

By EDWARD HARRIS

NEAR FALLUJAH, Iraq — Insurgents killed eight U.S. Marines on Saturday in the deadliest attack against the U.S. military in nearly six months. Marines pounded guerrilla positions outside Fallujah where American forces are gearing up for a major assault on the insurgent strong-hold.

In Baghdad, a car bomb exploded outside an Arabic satellite television news bureau, killing seven people and injuring 19 in the biggest attack against a news organization since the occupation began last year.

The U.S. command said nine other Marines were rijured in the attack in western Anbar province, which includes Fallujah and other insurgent strongholds. Maj. Clark Watson, with the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, said a car bomb went off next to a truck southwest of Baghdad, between the capital and Fallujah.

It was the biggest number of American military deaths in a single day since May 2, when nine U.S. troops were killed in separate mortar attacks and roadside bombings in Baghdad, Ramadi and Kirkuk

American forces are preparing

for a major assault on the rebel bastion of Fallujah in an effort to restore control to a swath of Sunni Muslim towns north and west of the capital ahead of crucial national elections due by Jan.

On Saturday, insurgents fired mortars at Marine positions outside Fallujah. They responded with "the strongest artillery barrage in recent weeks," according to Marine spokesman 1st Lt. Lyle Gilbert.

Later in the afternoon, a Marine Harrier jet bombed a guerrilla mortar position inside Fallujah, then strafed it with machine-gun fire, Gilbert said. He had no reports of insurgent casualties.

Crowds of Iraqis peered skyward as a pair of warplanes circled over the rebel- held city, from where large explosions rumbled Saturday afternoon. Insurgents sent rockets and mortars toward U.S. Marine positions.

"This is very painful for Fallujah. I think they're destroying the town and killing families there," said Saadoun Mohamed, a 35-year old driver near Fallujah. "It's very complicated. I don't

know how to solve this problem," he said through an Iraqi Marine translator. Clashes between U.S. troops and insurgents also broke out Satjah. Hospital officials said two policemen were killed and four Iraqis injured in the crossfire, said Dr. Saleh al-Duleimi of the Ramadi General Hospital. In Baghdad, the car bomb exploded outside the office of the Al-Arshiv paterision patrors.

In Baghdad, the car bomb exploded outside the office of the Al-Arabiya television network, a satellite broadcaster based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Seven people were killed and 19 injured, according to police and hospital officials.

Three bodies, including one of a woman, were mangled beyond recognition, said Al-Arabiya correspondent Najwa Qassem. She said they could not tell if any of the three bodies were those of Al-Arabiya employees. However, she confirmed that one guard and one administration worker were among the dead.

The blast collapsed the first floor of the building, where staffers were holding a meeting, said Saad al-Husseini, a correspondent of MBC, a sister channel of Al-Arabiya based in the same building.

Employees "were trapped between fire and the shattering shards of glass," he said. That "led to the high number of casualties. We were all there."

A militant group calling itself the "1920 Brigades" claimed responsibility for the attack, blast-



Marines of the 1st Division get a briefing prior to a mission outside Fallujah on Saturday. Eight Marines were killed Saturday in fighting in the Anbar province, which includes Fallujah. The deaths came as U.S. forces are gearing up for a major assault on the city.

ing Al-Arabiya as "Americanized spies speaking in Arabic tongue" in a statement posted on the Web. The station is owned by Saudi investors.

"We have threatened them to no avail that they are the mouthpiece of the American occupation in Iraq," the statement said. It warned of more attacks against this "treacherous network." It was impossible to verify the

claim's authenticity. South of Baghdad, witnesses said Iraqi forces opened fire randomly and threw hand grenades, hitting three minibuses and three vans, after a U.S. convoy came under attack Saturtoy Abdul Razriyah General Hospital, said 14 people were killed and 10 others injured. More wounded were taken to other hospitals. Reporters saw bloody bodies riddled with bullet holes inside the buses and on the miles south of Baghdad.

## Long-silent bin Laden re-emerges in new videotape

BY SUSAN SEVAREID The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — Osama bin Laden changed his usual sharply militant rhetoric to address Americans in a more conciliatory tone — though one tinged with threat — in his new video, dropped off at the Pakistan offices of Al-Jazeera television days ahead of the U.S. presidential election.

While the message was directed to Americans, he video aimed Friday had something to encourage ad-Qaida supporters around the world: the image of bin Laden — dressed in dignified, clean robes—looking and sounding fit, firmly in control and well informed on current events despite three years on the run from U.S. forces.

In the video, bin Laden ac-

knowledged for the first time directly that he ordered the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and said he did so because of injustices against the Lebanese and Palestinians by Israel and the United States. He said the United States must

stop threatening the security of Muslims if it wants to avoid "another Manhattan" and while he did not directly warm of new attacks, he warned: "There are still reasons to repeat what happened." "Your security is not in the

hands of Kerry, Bush or al-Qaida. Your security is in your own hands," bin Laden said.

Al-Jazeera, which is based in Qatar, received the 18-minute videotape at its offices in the Paki-



Al-Jazeera/

In an undated video broadcast Friday on Al-Jazeera, Osama bin Laden said the Unites States can avoid another Sept. 11-like attack if it stops threatening the security of Muslims.

stani capital, Islamabad, where "somebody dropped it yesterday at the gate," Ahmad Muaffaq Zaidan, the Pakistan bureau chief, said Saturday.

"The guard brought it to me along with other mail. It was in an envelope, I opened it and it was a big scoop," he said.

Bin Laden and his top deputy, Egyptian surgeon Ayman al-Zawahri, are both believed to be hiding in the mountains that straddle the Afghan-Pakistan border, although there has been no hard

#### See related stories on Page 11

evidence of their whereabouts for more than three years.

Pakistani Interior Minister Aftab Khan Sherpao said authorities have no information about who might have given the network the tape, but he stuck to Pakistan's position that there was no

#### Excerpts from Osama bin Laden's statement

"To the American people, my talk to you is about the best way to avoid another Manhattan, about the war, its reasons and its consequences ... I tell you: Security is an important element of human life, and free people do not give up their security. Unlike what has says that we hate freedom, let him tell us why didn't we attack Sweden, for example. ...

"Even as you enter the fourth year after the Sept. 11 attacks, Bush is still misleading and deluding you and hiding the real reason from you. Consequently, there are still reasons to repeat what happened. I will tell you about the reasons behind these attacks and will tell you the truth about the moments during which the decision was made, for you to contemplate.

"God knows that it had not occurred to our mind to attack the towers, but after our patience ran out and we saw the injustice and inflexibility of the American-Israeli alliance toward our people in Palestine and Lebanon, this came to my mind. The incidents that affected me directly go back to 1982 and afterward, when America allowed Israelia to invade Lebanon, with the help of the American 6th

"We did not find it difficult to deal with Bush and his administration, because it is similar to regimes in our countries, half of which are ruled by the military and the other half are ruled by the sons of kings and presidents. We have a long experience with them. Both types include many who are full of arrogance and greed..."
From The Associated Press

proof bin Laden is in the country.

"We have no idea where they got it," he told AP. "I don't think he is in Pakistan."

In Afghanistan, the U.S. mili-tuff from the world.

tary dismissed the videotape as "propaganda," and insisted bin The aging terror mastermind has a long, gray beard, wearing clean, traditional white robes, a Laden would be caught. "Although we don't have a timeturban and a golden cloak, standframe for when bin Laden will be ing behind a table with papers in captured, we have full confidence front of a brown curtain that that he will be." U.S. military hides any background. His hands spokesman Maj. Scott Nelson told were steady as he addressed the reporters camera, gesturing when he made The video was cannily timed. a point

## New helmet design saves soldier's life

#### Army makes controversial switch from PASGT helmet to the ACH

BY TERRY BOYD Stars and Stripes

ASADABAD, Afghanistan The nurse looked at Spc. Adrian Danczyk in disbelief when he finally made it to the aid station after a fire-



ics were working on the guys who were hurt worst, and I was just sort of sitting back out of the way," said Danczyk

Company D. 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division.

A nurse finally noticed his face was covered with blood. "She said, 'What happened to

vou.' " Danczyk said. "I got shot in the head," he

said "She looked at me like a

ghost The date of that firefight just south of Fallujah - November 8 2003 should probably be on Adrian Danczyk's headstone. But instead of the 7.62 mm RPK light machine gun bullet penetrating Danczyk's skull, his Kevlar

helmet absorbed the energy, leaving a wound where the helmet slammed into his forehead.

The bullet's impact broke the helmet's chinstraps and destroyed the mount for his night-optical device, Danczyk said. The only damage to him was a cut that took two stitches to

Fully recovered, Danczyk re cently was in Afghanistan with the Fort Bragg-based 82nd, helping provide security for the country's first presidential elections.

As he told his story to Stars and

Stripes one night at Firebase Asadabad, a fellow paratrooper slapped Danczyk on the shoul-"Oh, that story's so last year!" the soldier said, laughing.

Danczyk is one of the first regular Army soldiers to combat test the new Advanced Combat Helmet, or ACH, which is replacing the Personnel Armored System, Ground Tactical, or PASGT hel-

The switch to the new helmet has not been without controversv. In August, Lt. Col. Jeff Poffenbarger, an Army neurosurgeon in Iraq, told the Wall Street Journal the ACH offers less protection because it's about 8 percent smaller than the PASGT helmet.

In Iraq, the main threat is from roadside bombs, and Poffenbarger said many soldiers are getting hurt because the new helmet ex-poses more of the sides and backs of the soldiers' heads.

"I've become convinced that for this type of guerrilla fight, we are giving away coverage that we need to save lives," Poffenbarger, a former Green Beret, stated in the Wall Street Journal story.

Army officials, however, say the ACH has shorter side skirts because when soldiers dropped to the ground to shoot, their shoulders pushed the PASGT helmet over their eyes. Danczyk was firing from the

position

44I'd never, ever

let my

soldiers go

without

Kevlar.

Spc. Adrian Danczyk

82nd Airborne Division

The smaller ACH is three pounds lighter than the old helmet, and it includes a new suspension system that Danczyk calls "infinitely more comfortable."

One of the ACH's best features is that soldiers are less tempted to take them off, said Lt. Col. Brian Drinkwater, Danczyk's battalion commander with 1-505.

What no one disputes - least of all Danczyk - is that the ACH absorbs a lot of energy due to an improved type of Kevlar. Kevlar is a 30-year-old fabric invented by E.I. DuPont de Namours & Co.





Left: Second Lt. John Bradley wears the Army's Advanced Combat Helmet, which is lighter and stronger than the old helmets, while in Iraq. Right; Lt. Col. Chuck Williams, commander of 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment of the 1st Armored Division, wears the old Personnel Armored System, Ground Tactical, or PASGT. helmet. Some experts say the helmet offers more protection than the Advanced Combat Helmet.

It uses multiple layers of poly- Modular Integrated mer strands to produce a light material far stronger than steel, and with far higher tensile strength, the amount of stretching it can withstand before break-

The latest generation of Kevlar has "greater 'tenacity' — the strength of individual fibers to absorb a load before breaking," said Greg Parker, North American business manager for military and law enforcement products at DuPont's Wilmington, Del., headquarters.

Though not necessarily designed to stop an assault rifle round, such Kevlar meets current Army specifications for stopning a zero-degree shot straight on — from a 9 mm round, Parker said.

While DuPont makes Kevlar, other manufacturers make the helmets, he said. The ACH is a "No question, [getting shot] version of a helmet called the changed the way I think about

Communications Helmet, or MICH, designed for U.S. special forces units, according to Parker and Drinkwine.

U.S. officials "looked at what they had with the MICH, and said, 'This is a pretty damn good helmet," said Drinkwine, who worked with the Department of the Army's Soldier System Team to get helmets for all of his 800-some soldiers before the 82nd deployed to Iraq in 2003.

The effort was worth it, Drinkwine said. The ACH saved several of his men: "Not just Danczyk, but I had soldiers in Iraq hit by shrapnel or pieces of RPGs who walked away with nothing other than a bad headache.

"The best part of this is knowing there are young paratroopers out there who believe in it," he

Kevlar," Danczyk said

The night started when a Company D patrol came up on nine Iraqi men "clearly up to no good," Danczyk said. Paratroops closed up to about 200 meters when the Iraqis began firing. He can still remember the rounds coming at his head, dropping down as he tried to dig into the sand, Danczyk said.

Then the impact, "I knew what had happen as soon as I was hit.

Danczyk plans to make the Army his career, and as a future non-commissioned officer, "I'd never, ever let my soldiers go without Kevlar," he said.

The only time you'll see Danczyk without his Kevlar is be-tween missions. Before a mission, he's the first guy with it on. Some soldiers joke about him being "a Kevlar Nazi," he said.

But the punch line is, he's still

E-mail Terry Boyd at: hovdt@mail.estripes.osd.mil

A 1st Cavalry Scout uses an LRAS to survey an area outside Baghdad, looking for insurgent activity. The LRAS — a combination of several technologies - allows scouts to watch the enemy from distances outside the range of small arms. Scouts rate the device a must-have for the modern battlefield.

## Soldiers favor some weapons over others while in the field

While most soldiers believe Kevlar and battle armor save lives, an informal survey over the last year in Afghanistan and Iraq indicates that soldiers have greater confidence in some weapons than in

One of the most popular new battlefield tools is the Long Range Advanced Scout Surveillance System, or LRAS3, made by Raytheon,

An LRAS3 allows scouts to pick out targets while staying out of range of the enemy's small arms. Its long-range, multi-sensor system — including night-vision capabilities — allows scouts to do every-

thing from long-range surveillance to ranging tar-Scouts using the device in Iraq found it durable in

the field, though it needed frequent maintenance from Raytheon technicians embedded with 1st Cavalry Division in Iraq.

Other weapons of choice include:

■ M-2 .50-cal, heavy machine gun: It's reliable and has a round robust enough to even stop light

SEE WEAPONS ON PAGE 5

## **Weapons:** Troops prefer light and reliable tools

#### WEAPONS, FROM PAGE 4

■ M-4 assault carbine: Light reliable and versatile enough for both urban fighting and longer shots demanding accuracy up to 200 meters. The carbine's shorter barrel and lower muzzle velocity seems to have more knockdown power than the M-16A2 even though it's still a 5.52 mm round.

■ M-240B: A light machine gun with a high rate of fire (about 800 rounds per minute), accuracy out to more than 3,000 meters, dependability and a larg-

er, 7.62 mm round.
Perhaps the least liked weap on in the U.S. arsenal is the M-9 Beretta automatic pistol. Knocks against the M-9 include mm round's lack of knock-down power, the pistol's lack of "feel" in the shooter's hand and problems with its clip

U.S. Special Forces soldiers who get weapons unavailable to troops in conventional units typically are issued the only other automatic 9 mm pistol in the official Army inventory, the Sig-Sauer P-228, dubbed the M-11, made by a German-Swiss

A few Special Forces types carry variations of the pistol the M-9 replaced, the Colt Model 1911, which fires a .45-cal round.

"It was a sad day when the U.S. Army gave up the 1911," one Special Forces officer in Afghanistan told Stars and Stripes. One of the few U.S. weapons to receive mixed reviews is the Mark19 grenade launcher When it works, it's considered one of the most potent weapons available to infantry soldiers. The Mk-19 has the capability to fire 40 mm grenade at more than 350 per minute, and place them accurately at more than 2,000 meters. But soldiers told Stars and Stripes the Mk-19 is

susceptible to jamming.
The Mk-19 has been around since the Vietnam War and has a good track record, said Charles Cutshaw, small arms editor for Jane's International Defense Review magazine. But he's seen weapons stop working in cold weather due to lubricants turning solid, Cutshaw

said He recommends a lubricant designated MIL-COMM TW25B

"It works in every climate and there is a ... spray that is es-sentially a dry lube for the kind of powder sand they get over " Cutshaw wrote in an

-Terry Boyd

## **Army extends Iraq tours by** 2 months for 6,500 troops

BY ROBERT BURNS

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The Army has extended by two months the Iraq tours of about 6,500 soldiers, citing a need for experienced troops through the Iraqi elections scheduled for late January.

No official statement was released, but the Pentagon's public affairs office posted an article on its Web site Saturday that said 3,500 soldiers of the 2nd Brigade 1st Cavalry Division and 3,000 from the 1st Infantry Division headquarters will remain in Iraq at least two months longer than

The Army had scheduled those units for 10-month deployments, rather than the usual 12-month tours, to stagger the rotation of forces in and out of Iraq this winter to avoid overburdening transportation systems. Instead they will remain to provide security through the elections.

The Pentagon article spoke of "the troops' frustration" over having their tours extended. It said some of the soldiers had been told they would be leaving Iraq as

3,500 soldiers of the 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division and 3,000 from the 1st Infantry Division headquarters will remain in Iraa.

early as November. Instead they will stay through January.

Army Gen. George Casey, the top U.S. commander in Iraq, requested the extensions in late Sentember, and his immediate superi or. Army Gen. John Abizaid. made the decision Oct. 16, the Pentagon article said

The decision appeared to mark the second time in recent weeks that soldiers of the 2nd Brigade. 1st Cavalry Division, have had their Iraq deployments extended. On Oct. 4 the U.S. military command in Baghdad announced that rather than complete its redeployment to Fort Hood, Texas, in December, the brigade was to begin heading home in January. On Saturday the Pentagon said these soldiers will begin their return in mid-February, with the last ones due out by mid-March.

The 3,000 soldiers of the 1st In-

fantry Division headquarters. based in Würzburg, Germany, will remain in Iraq until mid-February or mid-March. They previously were scheduled to have been replaced in January, before the elections, by the 42nd Infan-try Division headquarters of the New York National Guard.

The Pentagon public affairs article said officials had considered deploying the New York guards-men to Kuwait before moving them into Iraq, but they decided against that "in light of the high threat level in Kuwait." It did not elaborate on the threat in Kuwait.

The 42nd Infantry will be the division-level National Guard deployment into combat since World War II, reflecting the extraordinarily heavy reliance the Army is placing on the Guard to provide troops for the Iraq mission. More than 40 nement of the U.S. force in Iraq is Guard or Re-

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issues and frame questions and responses intelligently

#### Education Directory

Army ROTC www.ffyrotc.com

Baker College Online military, bakercollegeonline.com

Bellevue University www.bellevue.edu/info/militarydegrees

Central Maine Community College cvirostko@cmcc.edu

Cleveland Institute of Electronics www.cie-wc.edu

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lowa State University www.ede.iastate.edu/ss

Liberty University

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Northern Plain Transition to Teaching www.montana.edu/nptt

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University of Missouri http://cdis.missouri.edu/go/asp

University of Maryland University College Europe

www.ed.umuc.edu edstudent\_svc@ed.umuc.edu

## Improvements in armor boosts confidence

### Skunk Werks armor shop helps soldiers by making better protection for U.S. vehicles

By JIII IANA GITTLER Stars and Stripes

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq — Every time a convoy returns to the base. Capt. Michael

DeLaughter gets nervous. "Every time I have a convoy on the road, they're shot at or something is blown up against them," he said.

As the 7th Transportation Battalion's maintenance officer, DeLaughter is responsible for about 1,500 vehicles. As roadside attacks intensified, it's been his job to help

create ways to guard against them. Most of the battalion's convoys are protected by trucks - vehicles with no armor ing. And unlike the thousands of armored kits added to Humvees across Iraq, the Army hasn't supplied armoring kits for the battalion's trucks.

"We're not going to wait for them," De-Laughter said. "On any given day, I can have up to 300 trucks on the road. It's our soldiers that are on the road

"This is a truck drivers' war, unfortu-

In his small plywood office inside the maintenance area, pieces of battered and punctured steel fill the walls. They demonstrate some of the techniques his unit employs to protect its vehicles.

One sharp dented triangle is proving the most effective, a ballistic steel called Armox designed to stop small arms rounds

But DeLaughter doesn't just take anyone's word, he said. "We always have [explosive ordnance disposal teams] go out and shoot at it.

His battalion has attached more than \$80,000 worth of Armox to its vehicles this

In Al-Asad this April, a Humvee with an Armov gunner's how rolled over a land mine, DeLaughter said. The Humvee was



A GITTLER/St

Spc. Scott LaClair, a welder and maintenance technician for the 7th Transportation Battalion's Skunk Werks, holds a piece of Armox ballistic steel shot up by Explosive Ordnance Disposal soldiers at Anaconda. The only hole was shot seven times in the same spot.

diers in it - survived

A photo of the wreck sits on the office wall, with a collage of other mangled and wrecked vehicle images. Never wasteful. they reused the shattered Humvee's Armox box on another vehicle, DeLaughter said

"It is helping, it's there for a purpose," said Spc. Scott LaClair, one of two soldiers working in the 7th Transportation's armoring shop called the Skunk Werks.

"You see in the trucks that come in after being hit by an IED how it worked. It definitely makes it worthwhile," LaClair said. LaClair and his coworker Staff Sot New Hampshire National Guard and welders in their civilian lives. For that evnerience, they were selected for the Skunk

As truck drivers, they can appreciate the need for armor. The battalion has lost eight soldiers to convoy attacks this year. A

ninth is missing.

A transportation soldier was killed in a convoy attack Wednesday, 10 miles from base. His unit was pulling supplies on a flatbed trailer.

"Each [improvement] kind of builds up your confidence a little. This stuff has been tested," LaClair said. "Deep down, everyone knows it's there

#### Confidence builder

Members of the 724th Transportation Company have driven trucks and Humvees with and without added armor

Their Humvees now have add-on armor kits and Armox in areas where the kits don't protect.

"It restricts your movement but it's safe," said Spc. Craig McDermott, a gunner and driver with the 1st Platoon, the Bulldogs. "I haven't had a bullet come through vet.

But the Skunk Werks inventors aren't resting on their laurels.

As vehicles were increasingly attacked by roadside explosives this year, DeLaughter's team went a step further.

Armox stops bullets, but as a hard steel, it can crack under the pressure of improvised explosive blasts.

This summer, two sailors attached to the Skunk Werks - both with experience working on heavy armored ship hulls suggested an improvement. They added a layer of soft steel to the Armox to withstand the blast pressure, with rubber in be-

The EOD crew proved it worked against small arms and explosives. They called it dreadnought, named after early 20th-century armored warshins. A dreadnought gunner's box now adorns the back of most of the battalion's gun trucks

The trucks are evolving in other ways. The battalion's communications unit is creating radios that allow the crew to communicate amid the clamor of battle.

At Skunk Werks, the vehicles may lack elegance, but they're designed to work.

"It's handmade, the seams might not match," DeLaughter said. "But we have given [soldiers] the best protection possi-

## Troops find humility in interactions with Iraqi children

BY JULIANA GITTLER

Stars and Strines

BAGHDAD - They buy chewing gum from children outside the exchange in the International Zone or sneak food to others on patrols around Baghdad.

Charities, military commands and individuals have donated thousands of school supplies, shoes and provisions to help the children of Iraq, but ordinary soldiers and Marines are also finding comfort and humanity in their daily interaction with local chil-

Across Iraq, servicemembers give out candy and water to let kids see a softer side to warriors. "We're out there every day

working with the kids. Some even recognize us, and remember our name," Marine Cpl. David. P. Meinhold, a reconnaissance Marine with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit in Najaf, said in an e-mail. "They come up to us every day, so it's like having a little h rother or sister running up to vou. It's more that just a warm

That interaction helps time pass, helps distinguish the good guys from the bad, and could help the future of Iraq, according t mental health professionals and the servicemembers themselves. "I think it gives Marines and

soldiers something meaningful to do other than fighting. For the most part, [They're] only fighting a small percentage of their time here," said Army Reserve Capt. Michael Brand, a clinical social worker with the 1908th Combat Control Detachment Brand is also an assistant professor at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, College of Public Health.

"It also reinforces the big picture - the mission, which is to liberate and improve the quality of life in Iraq," he said.

Servicemembers give a more simplistic reason for interacting with kids to kill time

"We do mess with the kids. It helps pass the time more. It's something to do besides just sitting here," said Spc. Gary Hiatt, with the 89th Military Police Brigade in Baghdad.

Children coming by to sell things and hang around are the only entertainment for soldiers waiting by their vehicles in the International Zone between patrols. put much thought into the interaction. Their families might send gifts to give out to the kids. But many say they don't feel comnelled to help because of guilt or because their commands tell them to

"It's just for kicks," Hiatt said. "We're bored, there's nothing else to do.

Out on patrols, the interaction can serve a greater purpose.

Children have informed soldiers and Marines about weapons caches. They've helped tear down anti-coalition posters in Baghdad.

"Sometimes, they'll help us with stuff. A lot of them like to do things for you," said Sgt. Nathan Melton, with the 2nd Battalion 162nd Infantry Regiment with the Oregon National Guard serving in Baghdad.

"I think getting out and having [humanitarian assistance] interaction helps distinguish between average folks and the bad guys," Brand said.

For servicemembers angry about some of their experiences here, interacting with children can dissipate the anger, he said.

"It's weird. Initially we're out



fc. Jimmie Frost, Spc. Daniel Buff and Spc. Gary Hiatt with the 89th Military Police Brigade in Baghdad encourages Ahmed, an Iraqi boy who visits with soldiers, to pose like a body builder. Many of the kids in the International Zone wear T-shirts given to them by troops.

there holding security, trying to be a hard target," said Meinhold. "We don't want to drop our guard. But the kids will run right up to us and start talking to us immediately. They have faces that you just can't say no to."

Servicemembers say the chil-dren can get out of hand or mouthy, but they also can be endearing.

"They've impressed They're tough. That's one thing I've noticed," Melton said.

The soldiers also know the positive interaction helps build support for coalition forces.

"When they grow up," said Pfc. Jimmie Frost, with the 89th MPs. "they may not hate us."

## For National Guard wives, election hits home

BY MICHAEL POWELL The Washington Post

LONDONDERRY N H hona Emery, short and blond, a mother of four voungest most whose often sleeps curled beside her in bed, wakes up at 1:40 a.m. and pads to the computer. She tans out an instant message to her husband, Jesse

"Hev babe. Jesse's answer pops up two seconds later on her screen. "Hey babe. I am leaving for the airport in 5 minutes.

'Cool. Running a little late?" "I got delayed already, car bomb near the front gate of the airbase. It's clear now though.'

"I love you," he writes.
"Love you," she responds. "Be

"I will," he writes, "I will."

Shona's life plays like that now She drops the kids off at school, hauls groceries at Shaw's Supermarket and handles the play date and soccer game and breakfast-lunch-dinner regimen. Then she catches a snatch of AM radio or cable news and hears about another soldier killed and she sucks in her breath and waits to hear whether the attack occurred near her husband's base.

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New Hampshire ranks second per capita in the percentage of National Guard members serving in Iraq. These soldiers - diesel mecs, auto-parts managers and school counselors - have left behind families in states — such as Jersey and Pennsylvania and Wisconsin - that are divided with almost mathematical precision between Republican and Democrat, hawk and dove, Presi-dent Bush and John F. Kerry. The families may or may not swing an election. But there is little doubt where most stand. Polls show that two-thirds of them favor Bush.

Shona is no different. She may absorb a grim vision of war in her early-morning electronic ex-changes with her husband, but she remains a ready vote for Bush, even if Jesse does another tour.

"My husband's a hunter and a warrior," she says. "He's totally pro-Bush."

Shona works the home front, along with her friends Dawn Cameron, Laura Robischeau and Jennifer Rowan. They are war wives with 12 children among them, and they gathered one afternoon last week at the Robischeau home, in the Merrimack River valley. A visitor is instructed to look for the 12-foot-wide American flag constructed of red- white-and-blue plastic cups in the front yard. Four vans are parked outside with a dozen vellow ribbons affixed.

conversation winds through gales of laughter and chatter before turning to the war. keep careful track of the New Hampshire men killed in action: their dread is that an official military car might pull up in their



stan was about protecting free-

From left, friends Laura Robischeau, Jennifer Rowan, Dawn Cameron and Shona Emery of Londonderry, N.H., all have husbands who are serving overseas. National Guard families may or may not swing an election, but polls show that two-thirds of them favor President Bush.

driveway. Shona's and Laura's husbands have gone temporarily deaf in one ear from the concussive explosions of roadside bombs.

"Do I get nervous?" asked Jennifer, a former soldier and a real-ist. "Am I ever not nervous?"

Laura leans forward on her couch. "You wake up in the morning and you pray your husband made it through the night. Is he eating? Is he sleeping? Is my guy

In a society where income and stock options often rule, these women measure their working-class men by a different standard: They answered their country's call. When 9/11 came, I knew he

was following his heart," Shona says. "He re-enlisted in the middle of us having two kids

Says Jennifer: "My husband was born to be a soldier. That's why I fell in love. Love him to death, Obsessed,"

The connective tissue of the modern world makes for a curiously intimate war. Shona and Dawn instant-message or e-mail eir husbands, sometimes sever al times a day. Laura talks on the satellite phone. The connection is immediate and intense, and when they hang up no one knows their anxiety. Not the clerk at the Grand Union, not their neighbors, not their aunts and uncles.

"I've got friends who say to me,
'Oh, I know how you feel,'"
Shona says. "And I want to
scream: 'Oh, no, you don't!'"

Laura nods. A few weeks back, the kids were screaming and the microwave was spinning and there was homework to be done and the phone rang and her hushand Dion was on the line and she knew something was up. Two mortar shells had landed near him — shrapnel had pierced his shirt, his ears were ringing.

"The first thing he asks me is: 'Baby, how much do you want to " Laura says.

know how to answer that."

One recent Saturday, Shona messaged her husband: "In my eyes, Kerry really blew the debate. Bush is not so articulate but

I actually think it brings him more down to earth and makes him more believable." He wrote back: "Yeah, when he

talks, he talks from the heart.' Shona gave a speech when Bush came to New Hampshire and Pease Air National Guard Rase this month. Her view of the war's progress is not as sunny as Bush's — her man takes too much incoming fire to see victory in the

offing. But that's OK. eople laughed at Ronald Re-

voices of dissent. Martha Jo Mc-

cleaned homes and scrimped for years. Last October, they bought

a home in Wakefield, a town

tucked along New Hampshire's eastern border. A few months

later, Ryan, 31, flew with his Na-

tional Guard artillery unit to Iraq

to Martha Jo talk about 115-de-

gree temperatures and dehydra-

tion and getting shot at. Nothing he writes smacks of victory. "No one is going to die from the heat

but it sure is hell," he writes. "We

heard firing Sunday night but we

on her car and war wives to talk

with when her skin starts to

crawl. But her car also bears a

sticker that says: "My Husband is Protecting Dick Cheney's Stock

Price, Not Freedom." She has spoken at rallies for Kerry. "Ryan and I felt like going to Afghani-

Martha Jo has a yellow ribbon

always hear firing

lice duty at a prison. His e-n

He was assigned to military po

Carthy and her husband, Ry

years there, get the job done," she

says. "I'd rather

have my hus-band fight than

my children.'

There are

agan for fight-ing the Cold 44 I've got friends Shona says. "We won't who say to me, beat the terrorists Oh. I know how year Jennifer lisuou feel,' And I tens and nods. want to scream: "If it takes three, four, five

Oh, no, you don't!'

Shona Emery Wife of National Guardsman serving in Iraq

dom," she says. "But Iraq? We've turned it into a breeding ground for terror, casualties have gone up since the handover.... It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see it's going terribly." The question lingers unspoken.

Will the husband who comes home be the same guy who left? The wives had a trial run a few weeks ago, when their husbands got a two-week leave in the through

> ing side to side for bombs, Ryan McCarthy cranked up the heat in the Jeep until it was 85 de grees in Octoher

donderry

Lon-

"In one way, it was like riding a bike — it was sooooo easy to be back with him " Martha Jo McCarthy says. "But Ryan was blasting that

heat. He was a little angry, too. He did a lot of venting.

Back in Londonderry, Shona and Laura, Dawn and Jennifer talk about the day their husbands will return for good, about pack-ing tents and beer coolers and suntan lotion and going on a "wicked

awesome" vacation together. Their men have served nearly year in Iraq and will remain through next summer. The two-week leave was fine, but also a tease. A soldier cannot unwind from a war in two weeks.
"When Dion came home,"

Laura says, "he just sat in that hammock with his beer."

Jennifer nodded. "My husband

had a little issue with driving. His eyes went back and forth like crazv.

Shona hoisted her young daugh-ter over her head. "Jesse had an issue with crowds," she says. 'And he wouldn't unpack his duffel bag. He just kept it by his bed. He said this war isn't over vet."



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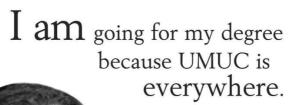
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## Witnesses: Iraqi forces fired on civilian vehicles

### Dozens left injured or killed south of Baghdad

BAGHDAD — Witnesses said Saturday that Iraqi forces opened fire on six vehicles, including three minibuses, after a U.S. convoy came under attack in a central Iraqi town south of Baghdad, killing or injuring more than a

dozen people.

Eyewitnesses speaking to Associated Press Television News said an American convoy was attacked early Saturday near the town of Haswa, about 25 miles

south of the capital.
After the U.S. troops pulled out,
Iraqi police and National Guard
arrived on the scene. Witnesses
said Iraqi troops opened fire randomly and used hand grenades,
hitting three minibuses and three
trucks.

The U.S. military had no immediate response.

Doctor Abdul Razzaq al-Janabi, director of Iskandariyah General Hospital, said 14 people were killed and 10 others injured. 44... [I]t is a big disaster that the Iraqi policemen are carrying out such crimes.??

#### Mohammed Bashar al-Faydhi Association of Muslim

Scholars spokesman

More wounded were taken to

other hospitals.

Al-Janabi said some of the victims told him three improvised explosive devices detonated against the U.S. convoy.

The area is a major insurgent hotspot where ambushes and attacks against U.S. and Iraqi forces are common.

APTN footage showed bloody, dead bodies riddled with bullet holes inside the buses and on the

Blood and gas was trickling underneath the vehicles. Empty bullet cases were also scattered

around.

An APTN cameraman saw at least 18 bodies, while witnesses said there were more than 20 people killed in the incident.

The footage also showed the morgue of Iskandariyah Hospital packed with bodies stacked on

top of each other.
Witnesses said police also broke into the Osama bin Zayd mosque in the same area and detained its cleric and two guards.

tained its cierci and two guaros.

In Baghdad Saturday, Mohammed Bashar al-Faydhi, a spokesman for the influential Association of Muslim Scholars, called
for a government investigation
into "this massacre because it is a
big disaster that the Iraqi policemen are carrying out such

### U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Pres

As of Friday, Oct. 29, 2004, at least 1,111 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 848 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defense Department.

The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is four higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated Friday at 10 a.m. EDT.

The British military has reported 67 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark. El Salvador. Hungary

and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 973 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 739 deaths resulting from

hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The latest death reported by

the military:

No deaths reported.

The latest identification reported by the South Carolina National Guard:

■ Army Staff Sgt. Jerome Lemon, 42, North Charleston, S.C.; killed Wednesday when his convoy was ambushed; assigned to the 1052nd Transportation Company, Army National Guard, Kingstree, S.C.

#### Report: Contractor from Georgia killed in Iraq

COLUMBUS, Ga. — A former sheriff's deputy who friends said quit his job to join a security consulting firm so he could help out in Iraq was killed in a car bomb attack. reports said.

was killed in a car bomb attack, reports said.

Travis Schnoor, 39, a former Army Ranger at Fort Benning, died Wednesday after the vehicle in which he was riding flipped over after hitting an improvised explosive device near Abu Ghraib, about 20 miles west of Baghdad, the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer reported.

Schnoor's wife, Alyce, and 9-year-old son, Tristan, were notified by Muscogee County sheriff's deputies, the newspaper said.

Muscogee County sheriff's deputies, the newspaper said.

Schnoor was a former bomb technician with the department.

From The Associated Press

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## Official: Flu-shot shortage 'manageable'

BY SAM AMRHEIN

Stars and Stripes

As a result of the Pentagon's ongoing efforts to get the influenza vaccine to deployed troops and high-risk individuals, there is a chance of a "low flu season," the Department of Defense's top health official said recently.

Dr. William Winkenwerder. the assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, said the short-age of flu shots is "a very manageable problem, a very manageable situation," according to a news release from American Forces Press Service.

Although the military has received only 60 percent of the supply it requested, the military should be able to manage the situwithout any difficulty, Winkenwerder said in the release.

### Army promises to take care of troops, high-risk patients in Europe

In Europe, Army medical officials have received very little of the vaccine so far, but will make every effort to make sure troops and high-risk indi-

viduals are taken care of, said Cyn-Vaughn, spokeswoman for the European Re-Center.

vaccines "The we have received so far were sent downrange,'

Vaughn said in a telephone interview Saturday. "And the vaccines

that we expect to receive in November will be given to soldiers who are expected to deploy."

But, Vaughn said, as soon as more of the vaccine becomes available, the medical command would let high-risk individuals

44 The vaccines we have received so far were sent downrange, And the vaccines that we expect to receive in

Cynthia Vaughn

spokeswoman for the European Regional Medical Center know where they can go to get that 84.9 million people fall into vaccinated

"We will be putting out informa-

and in the news media to let them know the vaccine is available, Vaughn said. "We will identify who they are and let them know

where they can get (the shot)

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, high-risk individuals are children ages 6 months to 2 years, adults older than 65, pregnant women and anyone with underlying health conditions. The CDC estimates

as washing hands frequently and covering up when coughing or If a person feels sick, he said, "don't come to work. Don't spread an illness."

receive the flu shot, bringing the

total number of vaccines needed

to 98.2 million, according to the

million doses of the vaccine will

health officials have started a

campaign to help prevent the

spread of the disease. In the news

release, Winkenwerder men-

tioned preventive practices such

be available this flu season.

The CDC estimates about 58

Recause of the shortage DOD

CDC Web site.

November will be given to soldiers who are expected to deploy. 77

the high-risk category. The CDC also suggests health

E-mail Sam Amrhein at: amrheins@mail.estripes.osd.mil tion at the hospital, at the clinics, care workers and those caring for

## Vichenza unit wins Armywide award

BY JASON CHUDY Stars and Stripes

The Army's Chief of Staff recently announced its 2004 Supply Excellence Award winners, with Europe-based units winning nearly half of the active-duty catego-

An additional six units took either runners-up or honorable mention honors.

The Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the Supply Support Activity for the 22nd Area Support Group in Vicenza, Italy, took a first-place award in its category — a supply support activity with small staffing and equipment.

The award is its second first-place award in the past three years, according to the unit's accountable officer, Chief Warrant Officer Jorge Mercado.

"The philosophy here is if we do the right thing year-round, we'll only have to make minor adjustments here and there." Mercado said.

"We try to exceed the performance standards, to go above and beyond ... instead of just waiting for an inspection.

Mercado said that his unit is made up of 14 Italian civilians and four soldiers.

Other winners were

- ■11th Signal Detachment in Mannheim, Germany.
- 222nd Base Support Battalion in Baumholder, Germany.
- Company D, 701st Main Supnort Battalion in Kitzingen Ger-

Runners-up were the 70th Transportation Company and 95th Military Police Battalion in Mannheim; 26th Quartermaster Supply and Service Company in Hanau, Germany; and the 80th Area Support Group Augmentation in Chievres Relgium

In addition, the Southern Europe Task Force Augmentation Unit in Vicenza, an Army Reserve unit, was named a runner-up in its category, and the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 202nd Military Police Group in Mannheim received an honorable mention.

Winners received plagues from Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker during a ceremony in Washington D.C.

Evaluations for next year's awards program begin next month and runs through March

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Rates for cards purchased outside of Iraq or Afghanistan also will be discounted at 21 cents per minute, a savings of 7 cents per

The cards cost \$35 at Operation Enduring Freedom and Opera-tion Iraqi Freedom AAFES outlets, and \$39 at AAFES outlets outside of those theaters



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#### IN THE STATES

## Bin Laden tape refocuses candidates

### Bush, Kerry argue over who can best fight global war on terrorism after new tape airs

BY CALVIN WOODWARD AND DEB RIECGMANN The Associated Press

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — President Bush and Sen. John Kerry charged into a sharp final round of argument Saturday over which one can best fight global terrorism, the import of their debate underscored by Osama bin Laden's sudden reappearance on tape at "a time of great consequence," in the words of the president

The person that sits in the Oval Office will determine the outcome of the war on terror and the economy." Bush told supporters in Grand Rapids, Mich., after directing his national security aides to take any necessary steps in response to the bin Laden tape.

Kerry was in the Midwest battleground states, too, campaigning in Appleton, Wis., where he pledged to "lead the world in fighting a smarter, more effective, tougher, more strategic war

"We will make America safer."

the Massachusetts senator said. renewing his charges that Bush was responsible for letting bin Laden slip away and that the president's rush to war in Iraq had di-

verted needforces from Afghanistan Vice Presi dent Dick Cheney his nitch

underscores

in Pennsylvania, suggesting that bin Laden's latest message

the importance of staving focused

on the fight against terrorism. "It is a contest we did not choose but it is one that we will win," Cheney told a cheering crowd as he pressed his criticism of Kerry's stands on national secu-

The campaign back-and-forth played out as the U.S. military in Iraq announced that eight Marines were killed and nine wounded in action Saturday in Anbar province in west of Baghdad. Bush held a videoconference



Homeland Security. White House spokesman Scott McClellan said the president directed

call with na-

tional securi-

Rice and the

heads of the

and depart-

CTA FBI

tice

adviser

them to make sure any necessary action is taken with regard to the McClellan did not say what steps were being taken or contemplated. He played down the possibility of the administration raising the threat advisory level, cur-rently at "yellow," or elevated, rule out Bush curtailing his cam-paign schedule to deal with the new video message

The presidential candidates responded with reflexive gestures of unity to the sight of America's deadly foe on video, but those were swallowed up in the lunge for advantage in the campaign's closing days.

Sen John McCain R-Ariz campaigning for Bush in Connecticut, predicted Saturday that the bin Laden message would give the president a boost in the campaign's closing days by focusing attention on terrorism.

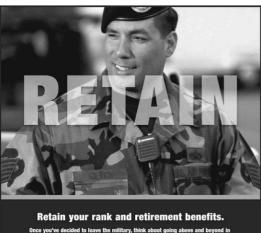
"I think the undecideds are going to go into the ballot booth and vote on who they believe can protect them the best," McCain said, maintaining that the answer would be Rush

Mike McCurry, an adviser to Kerry, said the campaign has no way of knowing what kind of effect the tape might have on the election: "We'll know on Tuesthat Kerry was using the tape for political ends, disputing Republican criticism and saying, "It's hard to imagine how they could make that charge since he's the one that referenced the tape in vicious attack on Senator Kerry last night.'

Kerry, for his part, hoped the issue would play to his advantage, pledging to defend the nation ably as president, just as he did as a young soldier in Vietnam

On the videotape, bin Laden explicitly acknowledged responsibility for the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks for the first time and told Americans: "Your security is not in the hands of Kerry or Bush or al-Qaida. Your security is in your own hands."

After a day in Florida, Kerry flew to Wisconsin to resume campaigning in Midwestern battlegrounds, where he and Bush spent much of the week. Iowa and Ohio were also on the Massachusetts senator's plate Saturday; Bush was stumping in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota before capping the night in Orlando, Fla



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### New tape could influence race, but it cuts both ways

By TOM RAIM The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The timing

of Osama bin Laden's suggestion that the United States could face another terrorist attack hardly seems coincidental, coming mere days before the U.S. presidential election. The political impact is uncertain and cuts both ways

It bolsters President Bush's argument that the world is a dangerous place and plays to strength as commander in chief in fighting the war on terror. But it also underscores Democratic Sen. John Kerry's criticism of the Republican incumbent for not doing more to hunt down bin Laden, vividly dramatizing that the al Qaida leader still is very much at large more than three ears after the attacks on the United States.

Bush can remind people that the war on terror is still on and Senator Kerry can remind people that Bush has the wrong priorities by going after Saddam Hussein instead of Osama bin Laden," said Ed Sarpolus, a nonpartisan Michigan pollster. Bin Laden, in a videotape aired

Friday, took responsibility directly for the first time for the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks and mentioned both Bush and Kerry by name. Reading a statement, the al Qaida leader said the United States can avoid another attack if it stops threatening the security of Muslims.

"Your security is not in the hands of Kerry, Bush or al Qaida. Your security is in your own hands," bin Laden said, "Each

#### **ANALYSIS**

state that does not mess with our security has naturally guaranteed its own security

The videotape set off a political firestorm just four days before the election, a contest in which the war in Iraq and the broader war on terror are major issues.

But political strategists had mixed views on how the development could affect the race - or what hin Laden's motivation may have been.

"I think it's a reminder to voters of Bush's greatest failure as commander in chief," said Democratic strategist Jim Jordan, who used to work for Kerry. "It reminds people that he's at large. and that Bush has had more than three years to capture him. Furthermore in an overt swine

at Bush, bin Laden made specific mention of Bush continuing to read to kids in Florida while the attacks were under way scene documented in liberal film-Michael Moore ... Michael Moore ... \*\*Im. "Fahrenheit anti-Bush film,

"It appeared to him (Bush) that a little girl's talk about her goat and its butting was more important than the planes and their butting of the skyscrapers. That gave us three times the required time to carry out the operations, thank God," bin Laden said in the tape.

Republican consultants and some independent analysts suggested that the bin Laden tape, and its express criticism of Bush, touch off rally-around-the-president effect so close to the election.

## **Court blocks GOP voter challenges in Ohio**

BY ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS

The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A federal appeals court Friday blocked the Republicans from contesting more than 20,000 voter registrations in Ohio before Election Day.

The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati turned down several GOP appeals of a lower court judge's order that stopped hearings on the contested registra-

The action could mean the hearings might never take place, since they must be held within two days of the election, the Republicans said. The lower court judge was considering whether to make her temporary order permanent, and decided to resume taking evidence Monday.

Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro and the Ohio Republican Party said they would not pursue any further appeals.

### Republicans had sought to contest registrations in swing state

Republicans say some of the voter registrations may be fraudulent, because mail sent to some of the new voters came back undelivered. Democrats say the GOP is trying to keep poor and minorities, who move more often, from voting.

"We are very concerned that the Democratic Party is, lawsuit by lawsuit, trying to dismantle the safeguards in Ohio election " said Mark Weaver, Ohio Republican Party legal counsel.

David Sullivan, voter protection coordinator for the state Democratic Party, wel-comed the appeals court ruling, saying it "clearly shows that this kind of scattershot, broad-net, take-a-guess kind of challenge is not going to be successful and is going to be slapped down pretty hard by a court that looks at it.'

Polls show President Bush and Sen. John Kerry are running even in Ohio. No Republican has ever been elected president without winning Ohio; only two Demo-

crats have done so in 100 years.

The GOP originally challenged about 35,000 voters, but withdrew about 7,500 of those challenges because of mistakes. County elections boards threw out hundreds more. Few registrations have been

Also Friday, Secretary of State Kenneth Blackwell, Ohio's top elections official, said he wants thousands of election witnesses who can question voters' identities excluded from polling places.

He told state attorneys to make that rec-

mmendation in federal court. Petro immediately declined, saying the request was illegal.

"Neither the secretary of state nor I can negotiate away the legal rights of Ohio citizens." Petro said in a statement.

Blackwell and Petro both Republicans are both candidates for governor in 2006.

Democrats and Republicans have signed up thousands of polling place witnesses.

Dan Trevas, a spokesman for the Ohio Democratic Party, said the state party supported the idea of removing the witnesses "if this makes the process run more smoothly. A black couple in Cincinnati has sued to

stop Republican poll representatives in Hamilton County, arguing that the GOP is deploying most challengers in precincts with large numbers of black voters. A federal judge in that case told lawvers to be ready to conclude arguments Sunday.

## FDA approves drug for early breast cancer

BY RANDOLPH E. SCHMID The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The Food and Drug Administration agreed Friday to allow a drug currently used against advanced breast can cer to be prescribed to prevent the disease from recurring in women who have been

treated for early forms of the disease The agency approved the new use for letrozole, which can now be prescribed for postmenopausal women who have finished five years of treatment with tamoxifen.

The manufacturer, Novartis Pharmaceuticals, sells the drug under the name Femara The daily tablet costs about \$210 a month, the company said.

The drug offers new therapy to about 100,000 women each year who complete tamoxifen treatment for breast cancer, said Dr. Diane Young, a Novartis vice president.

A clinical study of the drug showed it cut the risk of recurrence by half

More than 5,000 women in North America and Europe participated in the study. They had the most common form of breast cancer and had completed the recommended five years of tamoxifen treatment.

The women were given either letrozole or a dummy pill. After nearly 2½ years, 132 of

those taking the placebo had a cancer recur-rence compared to 75 of those on letrozole. udy was stopped so women ge placebo could be switched to letrozole

The hormone estrogen fuels the growth of many breast cancers and can encourage a

dormant cancer to begin growing again.

Tamoxifen, which blocks estrogen from connecting to cells, is recommended after early breast cancer is treated with surgery and chemotherapy. After five years or so the body can become resistant, and until now, no follow-up treatment has been available. Letrozole also blocks the effects of estrogen.

Hot flashes and arthritis were the most common side effects reported in the study.

#### Cheney threatened

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. - A man was charged Friday with mak-ing a threat against the life of Vice President Dick Cheney during his campaign visit to Michigan, the

Campaign visit to Michigan, the U.S. attorney's office said.

Homer O. Shoup Jr. of Wayland made the threats in a 911 call Friday morning, U.S. Attorney Margaret Chiara said.

Before making the 911 call, Shoup dropped off at Grand Rapids station WOOD-TV a videotape and letters that explained his plan, Chiara said.

Shoup remained in custody and was scheduled to appear in U.S. District Court in Grand Rapids on Sunday morning. He faces up to five years in prison if convicted.

## NASA's 'vomit comet' makes final landing

BY PAM EASTON

HOUSTON - The NASA turbojet notoriously known as the "vomit comet" for its use in training astronauts for weightlessness made its final flight Friday. A few among the two dozen seasoned passengers aboard got sick. "It's inevitable," test director John Yaniac

NASA's "Weightless Wonder" KC-135, a four-engine turbojet, was more commonly used by researchers to conduct experiments

in a zero-gravity environment. Yaniac proudly told those who attended a post-flight briefing that over the years, the plane's crew had cleaned up at least 285 gallons of vomit.

"They are there to do the research in the microgravity environment so if it means cleaning up a little bit of vomit then so be it, we do it," Yaniac said of researchers who conduct experiments as the plane climbs and dives.

Everyone aboard the plane carries a "sick bag" in their flight suit; plastic bags are avail-able to lock away the odor, said Donn Sickorez, who coordinates college students who con-

rez, who coordinates conege students who con-duct experiments aboard the plane. "It's just not a big deal," said Sickorez, who was ill his first time up. "The point is to enjoy it and get good scientific data and not to feel bad."

The KC-135's final flight lasted almost three hours and made 50 of the steep climbs and dives it used to achieve between 20 and 30 seconds of weightlessness at a time

During the flight, researchers evaluated tile repair tools in a zero-gravity environment.



The NASA KC-135 "Weightless Wonder." also known as the "vomit comet." lands at Ellington Field in Houston on Friday, after its last training flight. Used for astronauts' weightlessness training, the aircraft is being retired after logging more than 200 hours of weightlessness.

Two astronauts assigned to the next shuttle mission, Steve Robinson and Soichi Noguchi, were among about two dozen aboard.

NASA got two KC-135s from the military, which originally used the aircraft for cargo and refueling. The first KC-135 — used in the movie "Apollo 13" — was retired in 2000 and is on permanent display at Ellington Field, not far from the Johnson Space Center.

The final KC-135 will have its usable parts

sold off and be placed in permanent storage in Arizona. It will be replaced by a C-9 aircraft next year.

Yaniac said since the second KC-135's first flight in 1995, more than 2,000 students and 460 college teams have conducted experiments on board

'We're a laboratory just like any other labo-

ratory at JSC," he said. "We just have to go into the sky to do it.

The aircraft made its final landing at Ellington Field late Friday afternoon, where it was greeted by two Air Force fire engines. With their lights going, the fire trucks escorted the plane down the runway. They pulled ahead as the aircraft approached Hangar 990 and then opened their water hoses, spraying an arch of water over the plane as it completed its final

"It's the end of an era," Yaniac added. "It's the closing of one door and the opening of another'

Some traditions won't stop, however. The first person to vomit in the C-9 will probably get "a little plaque - all in good fun, of course," Yaniac said

#### Heinz records ruling

NORRISTOWN, Pa. - A judge on Friday ordered the unsealing of court records in a 1994 lawsuit by Teresa Heinz Kerry and her sons in the airplane crash that killed her first husband, U.S. Sen. H. John Heinz III.

The judge ruled that nearly all documents related to the case should be made public by Mon-

Attorneys for the Heinz family and estate appealed, and the state Supreme Court granted Heinz Kerry's attorneys a stay that would keep the file closed until the court can review their appeal.

Philadelphia Newspapers Inc. netitioned to have the records unsealed, arguing that Heinz Kerry could become first lady and the records might contain informa-tion in which the public might have an interest.

#### 'American Idol' class

RALEIGH, N.C. - Clay Aiken sang his way to a runner-up finish on the television show "American Idol." Last season, fellow North Carolinian Fantasia Barrino won a lucrative recording contract by claiming the title.

The University of North Caroli-na at Charlotte will now cement the show's legacy in the state by offering an academic course about the TV show.

Beginning in January, students at UNCC will earn three credit hours for the class "Examining 'American Idol' Through Musical Critique.

From The Associated Press

## Think you love scary movies?

#### Researchers say you're actually high on adrenaline and relief

BY RICK CALLAHAN The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS -Many teens, and some a bit older, wil be spending this Halloween visiting a creepy, ghoul-filled haunted house, or watching a gory, horror flick. They'll say they love to shiver in fear and scream in terror.

Or do they? Researchers say it's actually the adrenaline rush - and the wave of relief once the fright is over - that makes being scared so much fun.

Glenn Sparks, a Purdue University professor, said the euphoria people feel when the credits roll or they finally leave a house of horrors is what keeps them coming back -- even if they absolutely hated the experi-

"People come away from these movies oftentimes feeling really happy and relieved that the horror is over," said Sparks, who studies people's attraction to the macabre.

"They remember that they felt good and so they say, 'Oh yeah, I like scary movies.' But it's not that they really like being scared. They just felt good afterward."

Sparks said that natural. adrenaline-induced high often lingers long enough to supplant moviegoers' memories of cringing in their seats with a favorable recollection of the experience

Indianapolis eighth-grader Ross Dougherty says he likes haunted houses, especially when a ghoul "pops out of the

#### If vou're out

- ▶ Wear tight-fitting costumes of bright colors, or attach reflective strips to darker costumes
- ▶ Plan out a route in
- advance and stick to it ► Agree on a time you'll return home – stick to it
- ▶ Wear warm clothes
- under your costume and comfortable shoes ▶ Visit only well-lit

A- CHIMINA dark and freaks you out." But it's horror films that are the

13-year-old's passion. They're cool because they have gore and fighting and sur-prises. You know something's going to happen," Dougherty

He recently treated himself to the "Dawn of the Dead" remake and was delighted as the zomhie-like dead dined on a group of people barricaded in a shopping

Dougherty says he's never had nightmares from these movies, but admits to being a bit rattled by eerie scenes in the film "Sleepy Hollow.

Sparks says that for men and boys, in particular, the attraction of horror movies, haunted houses and other unsettling experiences is the ability to conquer something that seems threatening, even though it poses no real harm

In surveys he's done over the years with Purdue students shown horror films such as "The Exorcist," the students split into one of three camps when questioned afterward.

A third of the students say they enjoyed the film and wanted more; a third said they'd be willing to see more, depending on the film's nature; and the remaining third said they detested it and had seen enough.

For that last group, Sparks said the celluloid horror truly threatened them.

Fear is really the emotion that comes about when you end up concluding that your own well-being is threatened. That's what fear is," he said.

Jerome Kagan, a Harvard University professor of psychology who has studied fear, emo tions and phobias, said people's tolerance of frightening situations varies widely according to their experiences. For some, scary images on the silver screen are enough, but others eed more, such as parachuting or bungee-jumping.

"People like novelty. They like to experience different things. And some people need more 'different' than you and I," he said. "I play tennis for a natural high, which is much less



Todd Chenault holds a portrait of Father Henry David Jardine, who is said to haunt St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Kansas City, Mo.

## Missouri church honors its ghost

By JEFF DOUGLAS The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - As the legend goes, St. Mary's Episcopal Church is haunted by the ghost of Father Henry David Jardine, a 19th century priest whose foot-steps still echo throughout the Gothic-style sanctuar

On the eve of Halloween, St. Mary's will try to separate fact from fiction by bringing together the ghostly tales and historical documents about Jardine's life, which has been shrouded for years in mystery and intrigue

"He is quite a legend. And sometimes it's hard to know what to believe," said Todd Chenault, the unofficial church historian who organized Saturday's \$45-a-plate dinner. The event will feature fake fog and music from the church's 30-foot organ.

Chenault 45 who has gone to More nation news St. Mary's all his remembers on Page 23 trading spooky stories about Jar-

dine with his fellow Sunday school students in the 1960s. As an adult, however, he has worked to get the true story about the

Rumor has it that Jardine killed himself in the church's third-story living area and was buried in a basement vault. Not true, Chenault said.

Old newspaper clippings show Jardine died in 1886 in St. Louis, not Kansas City. St. Mary's does have a tomb, but the downtown parish that Jardine commis-sioned was not finished until months after his death. The stigma of suicide kept him from ever resting in the crypt, which instead holds hoves of cereal and canned goods for the needy.

On more than one occasion, Chenault says, he has heard footsteps shuffling from behind the organ. When he was a child, Christmas trees fell off ledges near the instrument for no reason, year after year.

"Have I heard things? Yes, plenty of times," Chenault said.
"Have I seen any ghosts? No, never.

from 1879 to 1886 Jardine increased St. Mary's membership, created a hospital and schools for children.

Betty Herndon, who will help lead the Saturday event billed as "The Historic Haunting," said many church members during Jardine's time praised his emphasis on old Roman Catholic ways, but others were not as accepting. Influential members spread ru-mors, hoping for his resignation. Herndon said.

Jardine also was accused of misusing parish funds, drug use and immoral behavior with young church girls. The scandal prompted the priest to file a libel suit against a former editor of The Kansas City Times, John

Shea Jardine lost the case 'It was a kangaroo court: wit-

nesses made outrageous claims with no evidence You name it, said Chenault.

who said he reviewed court documents from the

Jardine then traveled to St. Louis, where his priesthood was revoked. Days before he was scheduled to contest the decision, he was found dead. In his hands, according to newspaper counts, were a crucifix and rag soaked in chloroform.

Herndon said Jardine commonly inhaled the toxic drug to ease facial muscle spasms, so his death might have been accidental. He said few believed Jardine committed suicide or the allegations that came before. Arriving by train Jardine's casket was covered in black cloth and his congregation came to view it. Church archives show St.

Mary's buried the priest a day later on unconsecrated ground for \$88. The funeral precession stretched for more than a mile.

Over the past 100 years, Jar-dine's remains have been exhumed and moved three times, most recently in 2000 to return his remains to St. Mary's. His ashes rest by the organ, under the church's high altar



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#### IN THE WORLD

## Militants threaten to kill hostages seized in Kabul

By Stephen Graham The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan - A militant group claiming responsibility for kidnapping three foreign U.N. workers said Saturday it will execute them unless Britain withdraws its troops from Afghanistan and two other governments stop supporting U.S. policy here.

A spokesman for Jaish-al Muslimeen, a splinter group of the Taliban, told The Associated Press it had made a video of the three hostages - but provided no evidence that it was holding the trio.

Unidentified armed men kidnapped Filipino diplomat Angelito Nayan, Kosovan Shqipe Habibi and Annetta Flanigan from Northern Ireland in Kabul on Thursday. All were helping manage Afghanistan's his

"If these countries don't agree to our demands, we will do the same thing as the mujahedeen are doing in Iraq," Ishaq Manzoor, a purported spokesman for Jaish-al Muslimeen, or Army of Muslims, said by satellite telephone.

command and Afghan security forces have mounted extra patrols and roadblocks in and around Kabul since the election workers were forced from their clearly marked U.N. car into a black sports utility vehicle on a busy street.

But it remains unclear whether militants, renegade warlords or criminals were responsible.

"We don't know exactly who they are, interim leader Hamid Karzai said after a meeting with commanders of NATO troops deployed to bolster Afghan security forces "We have some leads. We have a list of some people.

"Let's hope the U.N. workers are safe and sound, and we are working very hard to bring them back to their families," said Karzai, who secured a majority in the Oct. 9 presidential vote, although he has yet to be officially declared the country's first popularly elected leader.

Manzoor, who said he was speaking from near the Afghan-Pakistan border, also demanded the release of all Afghan de-



A French soldier from International Security Assistance Force keeps guard at a checkpoint in a residential area of Kabul, Afghanistan, on Saturday. Afghan forces and NATO troops have mounted extra patrols and roadblocks since unidentified armed men on Thursday kidnapped a Filipino diplomat and two U.N. workers.

tainees from the U.S. prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and that the search for the abductees be called off.

"We may kill them if we could not get a positive response," he said.

He said the video would be released "in two or three days" to an Arab television

He also provided what he said were the numbers from identity cards found on two

of the hostages. Afghan and U.N. officials had no immediate comment on their validi-

Naveed Moez, an Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman, said the government had received no specific demands from the kidnappers. He said government sources had "confirmed" Jaish-al Muslimeen's claim of responsibility, but said he was not aware of any negotiations.

### Outspoken Italian gives up bid for EU position

ROME - Italy's choice for a European Commission post, who sparked an uproar with his comments on homosexuality and women, said Saturday he will step aside

Rocco Buttiglione said he wanted to give a free hand to incoming Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso in forming a new executive. He made the announcement at a news conference a few hours after Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi indicated he was with-

drawing Buttiglione as Itanominee for the justice commissioner

"I am ready to step aside to favor the path of the Barroso commission, which I wish every Suc one said, reading a state-

Berlusconi said late Friday that likely

ment

find another nominee to replace Buttiglione for the EU post, while Buttiglione would retain his current post as Italy's minister for European affairs.

Berlusconi said the decision



for a European Commission post, who sparked an uproar with his comments on homosexuality and women, said Saturday he will step aside.

was taken after he met Rarroso and other European leaders, who were in Rome on Friday to sign the EU's first constitution

A committee in the Europe-44 I have the right to an Parliament think that earlier month objecthomosexuality is a ed to Buttiglione's nomination sin, but this has no for the EU justice post effect on politics, cause of his conservative because in politics the principle of Buttiglione. a Catholic who

Rocco Buttiglione Nominee for European Commission

nondiscrimination

pean Parliament that homosexuality is a sin and women are better off married and at home

is a confidant

Paul II, drew

outrage when he told his con-

firmation hear-

ing at the Euro-

"I have the right to think that homosexuality is a sin, but this

has no effect on politics, because in politics the principle of nondiscrimination prevails, and the state has no right to stick its nose in these situations," Buttiglione said, reading from a statement.

He described himself as a victim of an "ably orchestrated campaign" because of his conservative views

Under EU guidelines, the Parliament cannot vote out individual nominees for the 25-seat evecutive Commission but must vote on the group as a whole. Faced with an almost certain rejection, Barroso on Wednesday withdrew the entire Commission to allow more time for a solution.

The new Commission was to have taken office Monday. The executive arm of the EU runs the day to day business of the European Union and serves five-year

Italian state radio said among the possible substitutes for Buttiglione as Italy's nominee were Foreign Minister Franco Frattini and Education Minister Letizia Moratti

## West keeping wary eye on Ukraine vote

By JIM HEINTZ

The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine - Ukrainians vote Sunday in a presidential election closely watched by the West for signs of whether the former Soviet republic is committed to democracy and whether the nation that sprawls between Russia and NATO's eastern flank will tilt toward the Kremlin

After weeks of opposition complaints of intimidation and abuse by officials, and allegations

that the vote count will be rigged, about post-election disorder high

Some 147,000 police will be on duty throughout the country of 48 million to try to preserve and the Interior Ministry additionally plans to deploy about 3,000 ers, 3,000 other security forces and some 10,000 deputized ci-vilians in the capital, Kiev, on election day, national police chief Mykola Bilokon said Saturday.

Western countries have repeatedly issued strong calls for Ukraine to conduct the elections freely and fairly, and the United States has raised the prospect of punitive action if the voting is marred by irregularities.

"A bad election ... will force us to re-examine our relationship, es-pecially with individuals who engage in election fraud and manipulation," U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage wrote

in the Financial Times newspa-

The key contenders to lead Ukraine for the next five years are Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, backed by incumbent Leonid Kuchma and inclined toward deepening relations with Russia; and former Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko, a reformist seen as inloping Ukraine's inrested in dev tegration with Western Europe.

After years of post-Soviet economic chaos.

Ukraine cently shown strong economic growth, primarily in its heavy industry sector, and candiboth

promised to push for even more growth in the country where millions still live in poverty. Despite a 70 percent raise in September, monthly pensions still average only about \$52.

Yanukovych's detractors, howevclaim that he will continue Ukraine's crony capitalism under which a comparative few have become extremely wealthy. They also fear he will maintain a climate of pressure against political opposition and independent news media.

The tensions could continue for weeks after the vote: with a total of 24 candidates on the ballot, neither Yushchenko nor Yanukovych is expected to get the 50 percent needed for a first-round victory and the top two vote recipients would have to compete in a Nov.

### U.N. helps to enforce curfew in Liberia

BY JONATHAN PAYE-LAYLEH
The Associated Press

MONROVIA, Liberia — Blue-helmeted peacekeepers in flak jackets patrolled the deserted streets of Liberia's capital on Saturday, firing in the air to enforce a round-the-clock curfew after a day of rare Muslim-Christian violence battered the seaside

"Don't you know there is a curfew in force? Keep inside your houses!" screamed one U.N. peacekeeper from Ghana, leaning out of a white pickup truck as he waved a machine gun at a small group of people who ventured outside.

Interim head of state Gyude Bryant imposed the curfew in Monrovia on Friday after Muslim-Christian violence that began before dawn degenerated into mayhem and looting sprees in other parts of the city.

Around midday Saturday, Bryant announced that the curfew had been lifted for a few hours to allow people to go out and get food and water, state radio reported. The curfew resumes at 4 n.m.



A torched vehicle burns in the Paynesville area of the Liberian capital of Monrovia on Friday. A mob brandishing machetes, sticks and Kalashnikov rilles rampaged through Liberia's war-shattered capital, prompting the country's leader to order an immediate daylight curfew to stem the rare Muslim-Christian violence.

It was unclear what sparked the mayhem. Religious violence is rare in Liberia, a tiny nation in West Africa founded in the 1800s by freed American slaves where about 40 percent of the country's 3.3 million people are Christian and 20 percent are Muslim.

A nationwide program to disarm ex-combatants is to end Surday, and Bryant said the government believed the violence was organized by "evil forces who do not want to see an end to the disarmament and the success of the peace process."

On Saturday, at least five burnt-out vehicles lay overturned along a main road in Monrovia's eastern district of Paynesville, where several churches and mosques were set ablaze, apparently sparking the violence.

Streets were deserted, shops were shuttered and one destroyed church could be seen still standing after its roof, set on fire the day before, had collapsed.

It was unclear how many people were killed and injured, but some residents and peacekeepers put the death toll at five.

## Docs await results of tests for Arafat

The Associated Pres

PARIS — Physicians specializing in leukemia were examining ailing Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on Saturday to determine whether he suffers from the blood disorder, Palestinian sourc-

Early test results were expected by Saturday evening. "Within 24 to 48 hours, we should know what he's facing," said top Arafat aide Nabil Abu Rdeneh.

The 75-year-old Arafat has been sick for two weeks and blood tests have revealed he has a low platelet count — a possible symptom of leukemia, other cancers or a number of other maladise

Arafat received a transfusion of platelets shortly after being rushed Friday to France for treatment at the Hopital d'Instruction des Armees de Percy, a military teaching hospital southwest of Paris that specializes in blood disorders and trauma care.

A Palestinian official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said there was a strong possibility Arafat was suffering from leukemia and that a team of French physicians specializing in the disorder examined the Palestinian leader on Friday.

"It looks like it's leukemia," the official told The Associated Press

"They are trying to find out if in fact it is leukemia, and if so, what type. They are trying to see what is the best way to treat it."

what is the best way to treat it."

However, Abu Rdeneh said he
was "sure" Arafat did not have
leukemia.

Arafat got out of bed briefly early Saturday and was able to speak a few words to doctors, Palestinian sources said. But he was still suffering the ef-

fects of his long trip from his West Bank headquarters in Ramallah to Paris on Friday. Arafat could remain in France

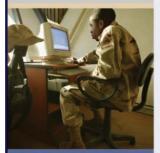
Arafat could remain in France for four to five weeks, said the Palestinian official.

Meanwhile, The Palestinian leadership convened Saturday without Yasser Arafat in the chair for the first time in years. Anxious to maintain an air of

Anxious to maintain an air of normalcy, the top committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization held its regular weekly meeting in Arafat's office.

Mahmoud Abbas, the secretary-general of the PLO executive committee, headed the meeting of a dozen members.

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PAGE 16 · Stars and Strip

#### Stool pigeon parrot

MEMPHIS — Afraid a talkative parrot might prove to be a stool pigeon, three thieves returned to the scene of the crime to silence the bird — only to be caught by police, authorities say.

After making off with DVD players, computers, radios, TVs and other electronic gear, one of the bur-

gear, one of the burglars realized that a parrot in the home had heard him use the nickname "J.J." for one of his accomplices and was repeating it.

They went back for the bird and were loading it into the getaway car when police arrived, authorities said. The chase ended a few blocks away when the men crashed their car.

#### Political battle

HACKENSACK — If campaign ads are any indication, Joel Trella is Sheriff Moonbeam, entranced with how the planets are aligned while immates slip out of his county jail.

And Leo McGuire, Trella's Dem-

ocratic challenger, is a hothead bully who threatens women. In the rough-and-tumble of a po-

In the rough-and-tumble of a political campaign, it's said truth is often the first casualty. That seems an apt description for the race for Bergen County sheriff, which grows more hostile by the day.

grows more hostile by the day.
"This is a race the likes of which
I've never seen before," said Trella, a Republican nearing the end of
his first three-year term. "It certainly has gotten extraordinarily
nasty."

McGuire says the barbs don't bother him. "In politics, you have to have thick skin," he said. "I've been a cop for a long, long time and I have some pretty thick skin."

#### Mitten crab invasion

OR PORTLAND — The mitten crab may not strike terror into the hearts of the average American along the West Coast — yet.

But give the small crustacean a chance to mate in estuaries from San Diego to Seattle, and millions of mitten crabs latter, the prospect of environmental damage, loss of native species and the potential multimillion-dollar cost to the Western regional economy may indeed be terrible, biologists warm.

Portland State University and the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center announced they are teaming up to prevent invasions by aquatic pests such as the mitten crab, a native of China.

The joint operation will combine the expertise of freshwater biologists at Portland State and the ocean research of Smithsonian scientists, said Mark Sytsma, director of the Portland State Center for Lakes and Reservoirs.

#### **Ugly House race**

DENVER — The race in Colorado's newest congressional district has turned ugly in the homestretch, with swastikas scrawled on the signs of Republican Rep. Bob Beauprez and deer entrails left on the doorstep of a Democrat.

"We took it to mean he was dead meat," said Dayna Hanson, spokeswoman for Democrat Dave Thomas

Thomas, the Jefferson County district attorney, has also been the target of ads criticizing his involve-

## AMERICAN

ROUNDUP

ment in the investigation of the 1999 Columbine High School massacre. And some of Beauprez's campaign volunteers have found glass and nails left under their car

Beauprez won the district in the suburbs west of Denver by just 121 votes two years ago in the last congressional race in the country to be decided. Since then, Democrats have gained a 6,249 majority over Republicans in the district.

But with unaffiliated voters making up a full third of the total, this year's contest has been listed as one of the top 10 targeted races in the country by both parties.

#### Bad marriage counseling

LA CROSSE — A man who said he threw a live electrical wire into his wife's bath hoping a near-death experience would save their marriage was convicted of attempted first-degree intentional homicide.

William Dahlby said in court he was only trying to scare his wife the evening of May 9. He told jurors the wire was hooked to a "ground fault interrupter" designed to cut the electricity when the cord encountered water. His wife was not hurt.

Prosecutors said Dahlby was trying to kill his wife to start a new life with another woman.



Pumpkin art
Tempe Artist Mike Maas shows off

his carved pumpkin of The Creature from the Black Lagoon at his Tempe, Ariz., home.

#### Stock sales

AK ANCHORAGE
General Gregg Renkes
sold his stock in KFx
Inc. after it was revealed
he was trading shares
while promoting the conproject. He's prow under investigation. KFx, a Colorado
firm with a patented coal-drying process, is part of a \$1 billion trade agreement between
Alaska and Taiwan.

#### Musket arrest

PINE BUSH — A teenage Civil War re-enactor was suspended from school for 21 days after a security guard saw a replica musket in his car.

Joshua Phelps, 17, was arrested Oct. 12 and charged with weapons possession, punishable by up to a year in jail. School officials also found a bayonet, rolled cartridges with black powder and a Union soldier's uniform in his car.

Police have said the replica could have been used to fire a pro-

Phelps said he joined the re-enactors club in hopes it would look good on his college applications. He said he took part in a re-enactment the weekend before his arrest and forgot the musket was still in his car.

His mother, Valerie Michaels, said she was concerned the suspension would interfere with his plans to take the SAT in November since he is not allowed on school grounds.

#### Servitude arrests

KS WICHITA — A couple who run a mental health facility forced mentally ill adults to labor on their Kansas farm in the nude and subjected them to other forms of physical abuse, a criminal federal complaint unsealed charges.

Arlan Kaufman, 68, and his wife, Linda, 61, were charged with involuntary servitude in the 1999 incident at their farm home in Potwin. They remained jailed after making an initial appearance before a federal magistrate.

Authorities also said the couple's mental health facility in Newton failed to provide any treatment to its residents for 15 years.

Their attorney, James Fletcher, who is also Linda Kaufman's brother, said the couple is not guilty. The Kaufmans have operated the Kaufman Treatment Center,

The Kaumans have operated the Kaufman Treatment Center, also known as the Kaufman House Residential Group Treatment Center, since 1985. About 14 people stayed at the center during that time, authorities said.

#### Taking politics too far

VERO BEACH — An anti-John Kerry demonstrator was charged with felony aggravated assault with a gun for allegedly pointing a weapon at the head of a Kerry supporter.

Michael Garone, 52, was re-

leased from jail on his on recognizance.

Garone and others were holding

anti-Kerry signs at a street corner in Vero Beach when Trevor Pickering drove up and said "Go Kerry," according to an arrest affidavit. Pickering argued with the anti-Kerry protesters, and then got

out of the car and knocked a sign out of the hands of one of the demonstrators.

Garone denied pointing the gun at anyone.



Monster ladybug Lisa Breen of Cour Pet Center plays w Aurora, wearing a ladybug costume, in Burnt Hills, N.Y.

Lisa Breen of Country Acre Farms & Pet Center plays with her dog in Burnt Hills, N.Y.



Stranger things have happened a Chinese lion rides the 6 train to Canal Street to kick off a Chinatown shopping promotion as part of the New York subway centennial celebration.



Hee-haw, look at that! Ariel Knight, with red scarf, and among a group of children from Bayshore Elementary School watching from the sidewalk as a cattle drive passes by in San Francisco.





We got spirit! How 'bout you? Maury High School cheerleader Sierra Jackson, center, and her teammates finish their routine at the Eastern District Cheerleading Championship in Norfolk, Va.



Taking aim
Eastern New Mexico University
freshman Pat Bean, 18, tries to
kick the soccer hall through a hole
in the goal during the halftime
shootout 2004 during halftime of
the ENMU vs. West Texas A&M
University men's soccer game in
Portales, N.M. Bean's shot missed
the target.



 $Sunset\ bliss$  The sun sets along Highway 77 south of Wymore, Neb.

#### Farmhouse deaths

RICHLAND CENTER — A judge found an Illinois teen guilty of gunning down his parents and uncle at a southwestern Wisconsin farmhouse, rejecting claims that he was insane when he committed the nurders.

Steven M. Tomporowski, 18, had pleaded not guilty by reason of mental defect or disease to the three slayings, claiming schizophrenia made him unable to control his actions.

But Richland County Circuit

But Richiand County Circuit Judge Edward Leineweber said Tomporowski's bizarre behavior could be explained by the teen's heavy use of LSD. He said there was evidence the teen faked mental illness in an effort to escape punishment.

He also cited testimony that Tomporowski told friends before the slayings that he hated his parents and wanted to kill them.

Tomporowski faces up to three life sentences when he is sentenced. A hearing has not been set. Had Leineweber found him insane, the teen would have been committed to a mental institution.

#### Hard Rock pays up

NV LAS VEGAS — The Hard Rock hotel-casino has agreed to pay a \$100,000 fine to settle a complaint by the Nevada Gaming Control Board over a risque advertising campaign.

The Hard Rock admitted no wrongdoing in the settlement. The Nevada Gaming Commission will consider the settlement at a Nov. 18 meeting.

The fine ends a nearly yearlong dispute between the board and the Hard Rock

The complaint stemmed from two advertisements. The first showed a man and a woman on a gambling table surrounded by playing cards and chips, with the caption, "There's always a temptation to cheat."

The other ad read "At the Hard Rock Hotel, we believe in your Monday night rights: large quantities of prescription stimulants [and] having wives in two states ...

#### **Group calls for suspension**

DENVER — The NAACP and other public-interest groups called for the suspension of a Colorado election official, questioning whether he could fairly review voter complaints after being accused of making racist and sexist sturs in Fexas a decade ago.

Drew T. Durham, who oversees the administration of federal election law in the secretary of state's office, has said he was offended by the allegations, saying they stemmed from a personnel dispute when he worked in the Texas attorney general's office in the early 1990s.

A 1994 story in the Texas Lawyer newspaper quoted a former co-worker who recalled Durham referring to a black colleague as "Sambo." The Rocky Mountain Progressive Network recently posted the story on its Web site.

#### Stolen snakes found

NC HIGH POINT — Call it the return of the snakes.

Someone had stolen about 80 snakes from a heated storage shed and hid them in the woods, appar-

ently hoping to sell them. But two people shunned the solicitation and alerted the owner.

Howard Hayes, a recreational reptile breeder working to grow the hobby into a business for his son, reported the snakes had been stolen. The 26 ball pythons, 10 red-tail boas and about 45 corn snakes were worth about \$2,600, he said.

A young man and woman came to Hayes' home saying they had met with some acquaintances who were peddling the potential pets.

#### Twins ace SATs

LONG BEACH — Dillon and Jesse Smith are fraternal twins, but their penchant for perfection is identical.

The 16-year-old brothers beat the odds to each score a perfect 1600 on the SATs. Of 1.4 million high-schoolers who took the Scholastic Aptitude Test in 2004, just 939 scored a perfect 1600.

The seniors at Long Beach High School aced the English and math tests after taking the SATs for the second time. Earlier this year, Dillon scored 1520 and Jesse 1530.

Dillon plans to major in engineering and apply to Columbia, New York University and Cooper Union. Jesse plans to apply to Brown, Boston University, Wesleyan and Bates.

#### **Grain storage**

FAYETTE — Agriculture experts are warning farmers that they need to properly store their excess grain or risk spoiling thousands of dollars of their product.

Bumper corn crops — at 220 bushels per acre — are creating storage shortages. On-farm storage already is rated 40 percent short, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Crops and Weather Report.

With the soybean harvest nearly complete, and only 30 percent of the corn crop out, that means a tight squeeze for many farmers, the report said.

Agriculture experts say the easi-

agriculture experts say the easiest and most economical way to temporarily store grain is keeping it on the ground. If done properly including cooling the grain and keeping it dry — losses can be curbed to 1 percent to 4 percent.

#### Cattle-E. coli research

BILLINGS — Researchers at Montana State University in Bozeman are looking at whether there is a link between what cattle eat, the strength of their immune systems and a potential to reduce the spread of E. coli bacteria. A goal of the project, expected to

be complete around Thanksgiving, is seeing if problems can be addressed, or even avoided, before the animals reach slaughter, said John Paterson, a beef specialist for the MSU Extension Service.

The researchers are looking at nutrition and whether the strength of calves' immune systems effects how the animals shed a particular strain, E. coli O157:H7, on the farm

The research involves 24 calves, each receiving the same amount of protein and energy. Only half receive enhanced diets with additional trace minerals and vitamins, Paterson said.

Stories and photos from wire services

Baghdad

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#### Addresses

U.S. MAIL: Unit 29480, APO AE 09211 INTERNATIONAL MAIL: Postfach 1330, 64345 Griesheim

Germany FAX: DSN 349-8416; civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601416

FAX: ISN 349-8416; OV. (1-49) (I) 615-y601416 E-MAIL. News: news@mail.eshipss.osd.ml Letters: letters@mail.eshipss.osd.ml CEVTRAL OFFICE: 529 14th Street NV, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301. Phone DSN 312-763-0900 or civ. (+1) (202) 761-0900. Fax (+1) (202) 761-0890 EDITORIAL DIRECTOR: Devid Mazzarells, 529 14th St. NW, Suite

350, Washington, DC 20045-1301. Phone DSN 312-763-0945 or civ. (+1) (202) 761-0945. em. (+1) (202) /b1-1940.

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#### How to call us

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#### WASHINGTON D.C.

Bureau editor: Patrick Dickson. 529 1 4th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1901; tel. (+1) (202) 761-0859; e-mail: dickson@diveps.cod 2016-0859; dickson@diveps.cod 201

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#### Drive on? No. thanks

So far, I have seen only one intelligent letter on the 343rd Quartermaster Compa-

There have been too many letters with phrases such as, "Suck it up and drive on or "We saluted the flag and executed our mission" or "Now it's time to earn your college money and serve."

It's just pathetic. This isn't a game.

Catch phrases don't save lives.

Going on and on and on about duty and country doesn't save lives, either.

What about the duty the military leaders have to those under them? What about the duty the country has to provide the very best for the men and women who serve

If we are going to wear the uniform, then we deserve the very best because we may be asked to give up our very life. Those 19 soldiers are heroes for what they did, because they took a stand for what was right and weren't bullied or intimidated by those above them.

Leadership is about taking care of those under you, and not about being the one in charge

Stop all this nonsense about following orders like some moron without a brain and start holding leaders (both political and military) accountable when they make de-

cisions that needlessly endanger lives.

And to those 19 soldiers in the 343rd Quartermaster company: there are troops who support you and believe you did the right thing. You took a stand, not just for yourselves, but for every member of the military.

And for that you have our gratitude. Spc. Russell Steadele Camp Victory, Kuwait

#### Women can handle war

I wish to comment on the article, "Army ponders female role in 'units of action (Oct. 23).

I am a female soldier temporarily assigned to an infantry unit here in Baghdad. I am a member of a National Guard Enhanced Brigade that is being converted to a Unit of Action.

I am one of a select number of National Guard females who are assigned to the headquarters company of a combat engineer battalion. The females of our unit are

#### Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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assigned in support roles such as administrative and supply personnel, cooks, mechanics and medics.

I love being a member of a combat brigade. I get the chance to actually use my skills as a soldier instead of sitting behind a desk in some headquarters building.

I am continually frustrated by the policy limiting females to noncombat roles and people such as [Center for Military Readiness President] Elaine Donnelly who use their positions to actively campaign

against females in the military. In the last century, women have fought very hard to ensure that we live in a place where we are treated as equals; yet in the military, we are still pigeon-holed into "safe" support positions behind the "front line." After being here for seven months, I can tell you there is nowhere safe, there is no front line, and our female soldiers have performed next to their male counterparts admirably.

I believe it is time for a change. The tactics of war are changing and so must the U.S. military. There are outstanding fe-male officers and soldiers who have so much to contribute, but are limited by the notion that females cannot handle combat situations. I assure all: They can and do.

Female officers and NCOs are required to train in combat scenarios at leadership schools and remain proficient in those skills. The Army has given us the training and we should be given the opportunity to

show the government we are equal to our male peers on the battlefield. Staff Sgt. Lydia Allen

#### Don't forget wounded

I was so glad to read the report "Disabled Vets Get Red Tape, Not Ticker Tape

The soldier, Tyron Johnson III, was wounded in the same attack that got another from my unit killed. In the year since it has happened, the soldier that was killed has been made into virtually a saint; his family has been showered with blessings and flown to Germany to attend a prominent building dedication ceremony to him. He's been used as a model soldier in formation speeches, and things like soldiers wearing his name on memorial bracelets.

However, other soldiers like Johnson who were wounded to the point of being disabled for life, are all forgotten and never mentioned. Many soldiers don't even know who they are. What does that say and what message

does that send?
The movie "Fahrenheit 9/11" pointed

out this very thing, regardless of what may be thought of the film itself: that while the dead are counted, the wounded are done so almost secretly. It breaks the heart when confronted

with the reality of it. Sgt. Samuel Provance

Heidelberg, Germany

#### Find a better network

I recently noticed that American Forces Network election coverage is to be provided by CBS - the same CBS that just a month ago mounted a deliberate dishonest attack on our commander-in-chief.

I do not want to listen to an entire night of Bush bashing by Dan Rather.
I think that AFN should use better judg-

ment in selecting which networks will pro-vide coverage. CBS has lost its credibility and cannot be trusted to provide us with fair coverage of this election.

There are plenty of networks that have not compromised their integrity during this campaign. Why can't we get coverage from an unbiased network?

Tech. Sgt. Robert Smith Brunssum, Netherlands



















#### OPINION

## What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other stateside syndicates

#### Smoke clears, tobacco lives The Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch

Congress had a golden opportunity to improve Americans' health, cut health-care costs and throw a lasso around a rogue industry.

But that opportunity was flicked out the window when a House-Senate conference committee working on a corporate-tax bill jettisoned a provision to allow the Food and Drug Administration to regulate the tobacco industry.

Ohio Sen. Mike DeWine, a Republican, and Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., had crafted a bipartisan bill that had the support of myriad health groups and even to-bacco company Philip Morris.

DeWine promises to be back next year with the same bill and a new strategy. But, he says, FDA regulation won't happen until the public demands it.

Apparently, Americans haven't been clear enough. So, listen up, lawmakers. Here's the scoop, in simple terms so that even those lawmakers who are particularly obtuse can understand: Tobacco products kill. Regulation is needed. ASAP.

#### Lawsuits court cynicism The Daily Sentinel, Grand Junction. Colo.

Who will be the big winners in this year's elections? More and more it appears that lawyers with political clients will claim the greatest victories, no matter who wins the ballot tallies.

As stories in this newspaper and others around the country have made evident, battalions of attorneys are massing in key battleground states, ready to file postelection lawsuits similar to those filed in Florida in 2000

They will claim all manner of balloting problems — from hanging chads to high-tech hijinks — on behalf of their losing clients, whether they be presidential contenders or those seeking more-modest political offices. ...

While that may be great news for the legions of lawyers involved in such cases, it will not ultimately benefit the American republic.

It can do nothing but increase voter cynicism and ultimately contribute to the feeling that elections are an insiders' game where winners and losers will be determined in courtrooms long after the ballots are cast.

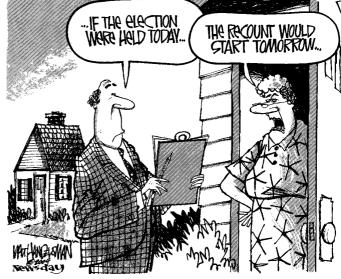
#### Let Sept. 11 panel prevail Chicago Tribune

This month, at the urging of Sept. 11 panel Chairman Thomas Kean and others, the White House leaped into the middle of the most dramatic effort in generations to reshape America's intelligence agencies. Top White House officials issued a detailed letter attempting to guide hegotiators from the control of the Sept. 11 commission.

There's a blizzard of detail in all this, but at its crux the legislation approved by the Senate hews closest to the recommendations of the Sept. 11 panel and deserves to be favored in the conference committee.

The Senate legislation establishes a strong national intelligence director with full budget authority and significant power in personnel matters. . . .

The House has unnecessarily complicated the bargaining by peppering its bill with an array of law enforcement and immigra-



tion measures that were not envisioned by the Sept. 11 commission. ...

The Sept. 11 commission has produced some sound ideas for revamping the U.S. intelligence apparatus. By moving to enact its most important recommendations, Congress and the president can show that they've absorbed the lessons of the intelligence failures this nation suffered before Sept. 11.

#### A low point in the Iraq effort Los Angeles Times

The confirmation that U.S. forces in Irrag failed to prevent the looting of 380 tons of conventional explosives represents a new chapter for the "just when you thought things could not get much worse." file Further, the execution-style murder on Oct. 23 of dozens of Irragis being trained as soldiers, the very men to whom the United States planned to transfer the job of guarding the country, demonstrates an abject failure by Iragis and occupation officials to learn from past mistakes.

President Bush has repeatedly said his generals have not fold him they need more than the 140,000 U.S. troops [currently] in Iraq, But it's now clear that Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and his Pentagon colleagues should have listened to Gen. Eric Shinseki, then the Army chief of staff, when he warned that "several hundred thousand" troops would be required to win the peace as well as the war.

Instead, Rumsfeld and his deputy, Paul Wolfowitz, disparaged Shinseki and shoved him aside....

[Jordanian militant Abu Musab] al-Zarqawi's followers claimed responsibility for the attack on the unarmed army recruits. Rebels dressed as police or soldiers stopped three vehicles, ordered the passengers out and shot them. Iraqi police and military trainees have been targets for months.

The recruits should have been protected by other soldiers or given weapons to defend themselves. ...

There have been better days in the Iraq war, but not many worse ones.

#### Money shouldn't drive donors The Denver Post

It was in desperation that Bob Hickey listed himself on a commercial Web site four months ago secking a kidney donor and, probably unintentionally, propelling himself into the medical textbooks. We commend a dying man's ingenuity. But the unprecedented matchup between Hickey and a stranger from Tennesse quite possibly ushers in an era in organ donations that raises a host of legal and ethical concerns.

It marked the first time an organ transplant was brokered by a commercial Internet company. It also launched the nation down a new path of organ donations that at once raises new ethical questions and at the same time gives hope — probably false hope — to the 85,000 Americans currently awaiting organ transplants. ...

And what about the risks? We would not want to see Hickey's case spur people in need of a quick buck to sell an organ with out considering the long-term consequences. "We don't want people jeopardizing their health to benefit financially," said Nikki Wheeler, spokeswoman for the alliance. "In this case, now you have a person who will have potentially bad health long-term."

The biggest problem Wheeler foresees is that sick people could become easy prey for Internet brokers. "They'll do whatever they can to save their lives," she said. "We don't want them taken advantage of."

Neither do we.

#### Party parity pure poppycock Times Union, Albany, N.Y.

It wouldn't be a true down-to-the-wire presidential election without the quixotic candidacy of Ralph Nader, now, would it? Mr. Nader and his handful of followers must be reveling in the news that the race between President Bush and Sen. John Kerry is so close that his scant support

could actually tilt the election in nine of the most competitive states. ...

Mr. Nader insists that he takes as much support away from Mr. Bush as from Mr. Kerry. Public opinion polls, though, dispute that claim. Some surveys show him taking more than twice as many votes from Mr. Kerry as Mr. Bush... Where Mr. Nader's analysis falls apart,

Where Mr. Nader's analysis falls apart, though, is in his contention that there's no discernible difference between the Democrats and the Republicans. Anyone who believes that would be better off studying up on the events of the past four years than making yet another run for president....

How sad it is to watch a once-respected advocate of the public interest babble away his own legacy, from constructive change to political mischief.

#### Rapids rough for amphibians The Herald, Rock Hill, S.C.

Miners knew that the atmosphere in the mines was becoming toxic when the canary in the cage died. But the rest of us need to pay attention to equally troubling signals about troubles in the environment.

Signate about troubles in the travitament. Take, for example, the recent discovery that male bass in the Potomac River have begun producing eggs. Scientists arent sure exactly why, but think it might be caused by pollution in the water, such as chicken estrogen left over in poultry manure, or perhaps human hormones dumped in the river with processed sewage.

And what about the precipitous decline in the amphibian population across the globe? The first comprehensive world survey of the creatures, which include frost toads and salamanders, indicates that up to 122 species have disappeared since 1980 and another 1,900 are in danger of going extitor.

What's important to note, however, is that these delicate creatures, made vulnerable because of permeable skin that is easily affected by changing environmental conditions, are the first victims of environmental abuse.



Tom McGannon poses in his Royal Oak, Mich., front yard decked out in Halloween decor. Plenty of people are joining McGannon in Halloween decorating — inside and outside the home — making it the second-largest decoratine holiday of the vear behind the Christmas season.

## Much more than pumpkins

### Halloween decorating turns into high-tech business

Halloween

decoratina

gives people a

lift and also

helps them

connect with

one another.

experts say.

BY ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — As a child, Tom McGannon always had the most decorated house on the block during the Halloween season. At 36, he still does, but

the decorations are more high-tech.

McGannon's bag of tricks now include smoking

graveyard scenes with stronou in graveyard scenes with stronou lighting. He's also thinking about buying a hologram machine that projects scary images. And where will McGannon be on Halloween night? "On the roof, pulling thick fishing lines that move the mannequins," such as spiders and skeletons, the Royal Oak, Mich., resident said.

Plenty of people are joining McGannon in the fun of Halloween decorating inside and outside the home, making it the second-largest decorating holiday after the Christmas and Hanukkah season. The trend has been a bo

big discounters, who have expanded their Halloween merchandise way beyond ceramic pumpkins and stuffed scarecrows.

Now, they're selling high-tech wizardry such as voice-activated skeletons, smog machines and downright gory bleeding goblins.

"With Halloween, you can get a little funky," said Sharon Weber, a spokeswoman at Wal-Mart Stores Inc. "We keep adding more to meet the needs of our customers."

Popular items at Wal-Mart include six-foot-tall inflatable purple spiders and eight-foot-tall inflatable jack-o-lanterns. The discounter also has skeletons and monsters that sing and dance to such popular tunes as "Born to Be Wild," "Evil Ways" and "Super Freak."

It gets grosser at Party City Corp., a 500-store chain based in Rockaway, N.J., whose Halloween merchandise includes a fake head with a wandering eyeball that follows people as they pass by. With Halloween decorating now a feature at mass

marketers, these creepy accessories have come down in price over the past few years, with many costing under \$60. But for those who aren't scared about spending, iParty Inc., a 40-store chain based in Dedham, Mass., has a shivering

in Dedham, Mass., has a shvering butler mannequin that retails for \$399, and Chicago-based Architectural Artifacts rents or sells gothic decor that runs into the thousands of dollars.

Halloween has been popular with adults and children for decades, but the decorating business — particularly the higher end — has burgeoned in the past few years. Architectural Artifacts said its clients had been limited to the Hollywood community, but now the company is being sought after by consumers for their own personal use.

"Three years ago, the Halloween business was nonexistent," said Stuart Grannen, the company's president.

According to Unity Marketing, a New York-based marketing consulting firm, consumers are estimated to spend \$1.54 billion on Halloween decorations this year, accounting for about 10 percent of the projected \$14.72 billion overall seasonal decor business.

That's up 5.5 percent from 2003.

Halloween decorating gives people a lift and also helps them connect with one another, a comforting trend during uncertain times, marketing experts say.

"This is all being driven by consumers," said Pam Danziger, Unity Marketing's president. "It's all about turning outward, and making yourselves known to your neighbors."

**SEE DECORATIONS ON PAGE 21** 

# Tricare tips highlight plan differences

Money U.

Susie Besaw, from the book "The Savey Sculor's Spouse," is new to the military lifestyle but is eager to learn more about how to manage her family and her new lifestyle through the monthly Family Readiness Group meetings of her husband, Jake's, new command. Last week, Cmdr. Michel introduced Tricare.

mdr. Michel continued:
"Tricare has two basic
plan types: Tricare
Prime and Tricare Stan-

dard
"Most active-duty members and their families use Tricare Prime because it has no enrollment fees or deductibles and, even better, no claims to file. The downside is Tricare Prime is not available everywhere and they require that you go to your PCM first for any treatment.
"Tricare Prime is bro

ken into regions all over the world and is portable from region to region."

"Tricare Standard has the larger selection of medical providers because you can use non-military doctors, but has a yearly deductible and you may need to file your claims.

"Verify your Tricare coverage and DEERS report every year or every time you move to avoid being caught in an administrative mistake.

"Wherever you go for medical treatment in the Tricare system, there is a priority system for providing care: Servicemembers are treated first, followed by families, and then retirees and their families.

"You are required to go through the military health system first, and if there aren't any Tricare supported facilities available, you'll need a non-availability statement, or NAS, from your PCM before going to a doctor outside the plan.

"You can find a list of approved civilian providers located at http://tricare.osd.mil/. I must warn you that without an NAS, you'll normally pick up the entire medical cost.

"Bottom line: Keep track of your permissions and expenses."

"What about dental care?" a young woman asked. "Does Tricare cover dental treatments?"

"No," Michel replied. "Ser-

vicemembers receive free dental care through military dentists — and they must visit them regularly. Military families use inexpensive dental insurance through United Concordia located at www.ucci.com.

"There are two dental plans single and family.

"The single plan covers only one family member and costs \$9.07 per month in 2004; the family plan covers multiple family members and is \$22.66 per month in 2004.

"Be aware there is a

cap on how much your insurance premiums will cover — \$1,200 per year on any enrollee for non-orthodontic services. Also, certain preventive or diagnostic treatments are not applied to this cap, but that's for a more advanced presentation. "Are there any ques-

tions?"
Several people in the

audience were rapidly scribbling down notes. I was just sitting there trying to figure out why I didn't learn about this military medical stuff earlier because it was important and seri-

The commander continued, "If there are no other questions, thank you. I'll leave some Tricare information pamphlets with your president."

The audience began to clap. Evelyn thanked the commander and helped her gather her mate-

After the commander left, Evelyn concluded the meeting.

"Before we finish, let me remind you we need volunteers to talk to Sammy about our annual 4th of July party."

Evelyn adjourned the meet-

ing, and we all gathered for a little while for the after-meeting social.

Next week, Susie and Maggie decide to get in shape.

coccuse to get in Strape.

Copies of Rajah Asson's books — This Savy Sallor' and "The Savy Naval Savin's Savin

#### YOUR MONEY

#### Halloween decor remains a favorite

Consumers have increasingly focused their holiday decorating attention on Halloween - making it the second largest decorating holiday of the year behind Christmas and Hanukkah.

#### Holiday decorations spending, 2003

Christmas/Hanukkah \$7.6 bil.-

Halloween \$1.5 bil. All events/parties/other \$1.2 bil. Thanksgiving \$959 mil. Easter/Passover July 4th \$640 mil. Labor Day \$468 mil New Year's Day Valentine's Day \$222 mil. St. Patrick's Day \$129 mil Memorial Day Cinco de Mayo

Source: Unity Marketing

\$71 mil.

## **Decorations:** High-tech for Halloween

**DECORATIONS. FROM PAGE 20** 

Not to mention that the trend has spurred some healthy rivalry in neighborhoods, where home owners compete for the higgest and most outrageous displays. McGannon said he's confident that he can beat his neighbors

Others, like Shannon Darby of Spring, Texas, realize that their Halloween decorations aren't up to snuff with what's out there in their area, and already are think-

ing about next year. "I will definitely be adding more," she said.

Consumers are spending more on Halloween decorating com pared to other holidays like Valentine's Day and Easter because it can be celebrated by people of any age, retailers said. And given Halloween's ghoulish nature, consumers can stretch their imagina-

"It's a lot more fun," said Bonnie Russell, of Del Mar, Calif. "Decorating for Thanksgiving

is a lot harder. Halloween also zans us into more innocent times when you were younger. We need some distractions."

By comparison, consumers are



A life-sized Halloween decoration called "Dobson the Butler" appears on display at a party supply store in Walpole, Mass., on Oct. 22. Halloween decorating inside and outside the home has become more popular, and consumers are spending more on high-tech items.

expected to spend \$7.97 billion for Christmas and Hanukkah decorations, about 54 percent of the overall market. That's an increase of 5 percent from a year ago.

For Thanksgiving, spending should reach \$1.01 billion this year, a 5 percent gain from 2003.

Halloween's ever-growing popularity has made even the most

complex merchandise easy to Homeowner McGannon said that in the past he had to use his business connections to get his hands on high-tech special-effect items, but now he can just go to his local Kmart to buy the

And consumers also are becoming more creative themselves. blending high-tech with low-tech items. In McGannon's high-tech haunted back yard, he has gravestones made out of the most mundane of materials - home insula-

#### THURSDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

52-week High Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	% Chr.	YTD % Chg	52-wk
10,753,63 9,584,54	Dow Jones Industrials	10.004.54	+2.51	+.03	4.30	+2.23
3,475,78 2,743,46	Dow Jones Transportation	3.484.45	+9.25	+.27	+15.88	+19.12
314.59 243.26	Dow Jones Utilities	311.26	-1.15	37	+16.62	+22.78
6.798.12 5.851.14	NYSE Composite	6,670,50	+4.63	+.07	+3.57	+12.08
1,319.75 1,019.41	Amex Index	1,307.60	-7.24	55	+11.42	+23.34
2.153.83 1.750.82	Nasdag Composite	1.975.74	+5.75	+.29	-1.38	+2.23
1.163.23 1.028.91	S&P 500	1.127.44	+2.04	+.18	+1.40	+7.69
618.46 532.17	S&P MidCap	600.90	71	12	+4.32	+9.78
606,42 506,43	Russell 2000	585,63	-1.55	26	+5.16	+10.42
11.371.14 9.983.49	DJ Wilshire 5000		+13.39	+.12	+2.31	+8.37
		,				
NYSE	Ам	rv		Nas	DAO	
NISE	Am	EA		INAS	DAG	
MOST ACTIVE (\$1	OR MORE) MOST ACTIVE	(\$1 OR MORE)	Most	ACTIV	E (\$1 or	R MORE)
			Name	Vol (00		-
Lucent 1071026 3	3.58 +.09 Nasd100Tr 1092013	36.96 +.23	JDS Uniph	79567.		37
	5.72 +.78 SPDR 526261	113.24 +.36	Intel	65655		
DrmwksA n 262357 38	8.75 SemiHTr 308358	32,40 +.20	Microsoft	59558	4 28.01	14

KEY D	EFEN	ISE	STO	CKS	
		_			Υī
Name	DIV	Æ	Last	Chg	%Ch
Alliant Technosystem		14	58.01	+,46	+/
Armor Holdings		24	36.78	57	+39.1
Boeing	.80	14	49.87	23	+18.
Computer Sciences	-	18	49.70	05	+12.
Engineered Sup Sys	04	19	47.80	+.13	-13.
General Dynamics	1.44	18	102.72	60	+13.

	DIV	Æ	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	MAY	a
system		14	58.01	+.46	+.4	Fidelity Invest: GroInc	36.08	-
rš		24	36.78	57	+39.8	Fidelity Invest: GroCo	51.38	4
	.80	14	49.87	23	+18.3	Amer Century Inv: Ultra	27.18	
ences	-	18	49.70	05	+12.4	Fidelity Spartan: Epidx	40.05	4
p Sys nics	.04	19	47.80	+.13	-13.2	Putnam Funds A: GrinA p	18.01	4
nics	1.44	18	102.72	60	+13.6	Fidelity Invest: A Mar	15.66	4
ic	.80	22	34.03	+.08	+9.8	Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCoGrA	31.13	
	.50		36.25	47	+39.4	AIM Investments A: Const p	21.22	
	.48	28	60.89	+.29	+60.4	Fidelity Invest: USBI	11.21	
	.75	20	33.61	+.27	+.5	Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea	32.15	
ations	.40	20	66.42	+.35	+29.3	Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	28.46	
tin	1.00	20	55.00	+.09	+7.0	Fidelity Advisor T: EaInT	26,72	
	.92	19	52.24	+.49	+9.3	Scudder Funds S: GroineS	20.50	
	.80	81	37.45	+.79	+24.7	Putnam Funds A: GlbEcty p	7.72	
	.66	24	41.66	10	+17.0	AIM Investments A: ChartA p	12.14	- 4
		41	54.44	+1.42	+11.1	AIM Investments A: WeingA p	12.05	- 4
ents	.10	24	24.34	+.60	-17.2	Merrill Lynch I: BalCapl	26.87	- 4
	1.30	30	68.55	26	+20.1	Scudder Funds S: Intl FdS	40.34	
logies	1.40	17	92.07	83	-2.8	Fidelity Advisor T: OvrseaT	16.06	
						Lord Abbett A: DevGtA p	14.65	
						Soudder Funds S: Income S	12.99	
						Merrill Lynch I: USGvtMtg	10.33	- 4
						Scudder Funds S: Devel	17.90	- 4
						Putnam Funds A: GlGvA p	12.73	

### **EXCHANGE RATES**

Military rates
Japanese yen (Oct. 30)
South Korean won (Oct. 29)
Euro (Oct. 29)\$1.3067
British pound (Oct. 29)\$1.87
Commercial rates
Bahrain (Dinar)
British pound\$1.8305
Canada (Dollar)1.2234
Denmark (Krone)5.8508
Egypt (Pound)6.2547
Furo \$1,2745
Euro \$1.2745 Hong Kong (Dollar) 7.7834
Hungary (Forint)194.14
Iceland (Krona)69.055
Israel (Shekel)4.4603
Japan (Yen)106.21
Kuwait (Dinar)0.2946
Norway (Krone)6.4511
Philippines (Peso)56.31
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)3.75
Singapore (Dollar)1.6631
South Korea (Won)1,124.00
Switzerland (Franc)1.1994
Thailand (Baht)41.09
Turkey (Lira)1.470.588.00
(Military exchange rates are those
available to customers at military bank-
ing facilities in the country of issuance
for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the
Netherlands and the United Kingdom

#### **PRECIOUS METALS**

#### INTEREST RATES

Prime rate4.75
Discount rate2.75
Federal funds market rate1.8125
3-month bill1.855
30-year bond4.82
Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of

## ents and Sensibility

### No vacation from buying

Vacations aren't just for rest plenty of us shop up a storm. In fact, more than half of people in a recent survey (51 percent) said they'd done holiday gift shopping while on vacation, spending an average of \$2,000. And how much are we retail

addicts? It's pretty bad.

Nearly three-quarters said shopping is as important, or even more so, than nightlife when planning a trip. Almost half leave snace in the suitcase for travel booty, and 17 percent

said they buy another suitcase to get the stuff home.

To save money for retailing more than a fifth (21 percent) said they had booked a cheaper hotel and 19 percent have skipped a meal or gotten cheaper food.

Not surprisingly, New York was deemed the best shopping city, cited by 41 percent. Las Vegas, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Chicago were also men-

The survey was conducted in

August by Chicago-based Orbitz Inc. It involved 2,696 adults.

#### To our readers

Liz Pulliam Weston's "Money Talk" column will return soon. Stripes apologizes to her weekly readers.



KEY MUTUAL FUNDS

+2.6 +2.7 +2.6 +3.0 +3.0 +4.0 +2.3 +4.0 +3.7 +2.2 +3.5 +3.7

Discover why so many people are saying...



### **Sunday Horoscope**

The Germini moon is a mischievous lunar aspect that loves tricis, treats, disguises and scary thrills! Even if you weren't planning on acknowledging this Halloween by dressing up as somebody else, you could change your mind at the last minute. There's big fur to be had exploring your aller Joyce I illison

something about yourself.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY
(October 31). You face
the year with great anticipation — you sense that this
is going to be something
special, and you're right.
Go with the odd turns this
month. Romance is part of
the equation, and you're
ready to do it differently.

You take pride in your work and are paid especially well for it in December and February. Love signs are Capricorn and Pisces.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). What's scariest is not knowing if you're fully prepared. This moming feels like those school dreams where you show up in various stages of undress and don't know what's going on. You know more than you

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).
You won't be fooled by false stories, but loved ones armed with an over-

but loved ones armed with an overabundance of information and conviction could spook you into doing something you didn't want to do. Stay strong.

#### GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

The fact is, you're attracted to the dark and ghoulish, especially if it also ties into something forbidden! Because you're not ashamed of being imperfect, some people find you irresistible. You could even meet your match tonight.

CANCER (June 22-July 22).
You certainly don't deserve to be the target of trickery, but because you're feeling so gullible, you could encounter it anyway. Be on guard! It's a creative exercise to consider who your opposite might be.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** You're ready for treats, expecting them really, which could make people less anxious to deliver. When you lower your expectations, your loved ones

surprise you. Detach yourself from the outcome, and do act out of

#### r enjoyment.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Fear is the enemy in all areas of your life. The monstrous truth will be

featured. Don't worry — it's only a monster in your own mind, much like an 8-year-old dressed up at your door

begging for candy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct.
23). What you do for thrills
and chills, others wouldn't
dream of doing! It's your
daring that makes you
unique. But be careful not
to lose sight of where
others are coming from.

Try and step out of your

own point of view before

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).
You'll be blowing things out of proportion in your mind, but that's half the fun. Imaginings could make you scream, but if you knew the reality, you'd only be a little jumpy. Don't be shy tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). This day plays like a movie flashback. There are numerous opportunities to engage in past horrors, but you choose to put them behind you instead — how empowerind! Tonicht is weirdly romantic.

#### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

19). You think you know what's best for all concerned, and indeed you do. But that doesn't mean they'll follow. In the Halloween spirit, you might employ a little witchy charm, a secret bit of mental hocus-pocus to persuade your subject.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Half the fun will be in pretending, so let your creativity loose, and create scenarios that are fun for you! The otherworldly qualities of the evening help it live up to all its creepy potential! Boo!

#### PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

There are the ghosts walking around in household bedding with eyeholes cut out, and there are the ghosts of your past that haunt you day in and day out. Be kind to both. The first just want candy, and the others are part of you.

Creators Syndicate

## 'Ballot' has long history

The approach of another presidential election has me wondering about the word "ballot." I figure it can't be a very old word, since voting for one's leader is, historically speaking, a relatively recent development (isn't if?). Can you tell me about its origins?

You might be surprised to learn that the earliest evidence in English for "ballot" dates all the way back to 1549. "Ballot" derives ultimately from a word of Germanic origin meaning "ball."

Small balls, variously marked or colored, have been used as a means for casting a secret vote since ancient times. For example, in ancient Greece balls were used in the determination of criminal matters. Jurors voted with one kind of ball for acquittal and with another for condemnation. Even today, some private clubs accept or reject candidates for membership on the basis of a vote taken with white and black balls, hence our word "blackball."

In Renaissance Venice, which was actually a republic and had been one since the 11th century, this same kind of secret vote was used. A Venetian, being Italian, called the ball he voted with a "hallotta" or "fittle hall."

The English borrowed Italian "ballotta" and shortened it to "ballot," using it to designate a ball or any other object, such as a ticket or piece of paper, used in casting a secret yote.

## Monetary successes allow jealousy to creep into family

Dear Abby: I have been married to "Sam" for 20 years.

He is a wonderful husband and provider. When I married Sam, we had nothing; now we have a home and rental properties. My family seems to be

Dear Abby

My family seems to be jealous of the financial success we have achieved. My siblings make snide comments and have pulled away. It came to a head the other night when my

other night when my youngest sister announced to the family that I had gone online and anonymously threatened her family. Abby, I have never been anything but kind to them. They have an open invitation to visit our home and swim, and I have even bought her children

I don't understand this, and I'm very hurt. Please help me to put this in perspective, because I am fully aware that money cannot buy happiness — happiness comes from family and loved

clothing and shoes when she was

— Wrongly Accused in Arkansas Dear Wrongly Accused: Your sister may be jealous, may have mental problems — or may just have a need to be the center of attention. Since you have been generous with her, it may be time to realize that loving relationships are reciprocal. If your relatives are put off by what you and your husband have accomplished, the problem is really theirs, and you can't fix it

P.S. If your sister did, in fact, receive a threatening e-mail, rather than accusing you, she should have informed the police.

Dear Abby: I am 16 and have just started my junior year in high school. Last spring, I started dating "Rick." a guy in my class. After six weeks, he dropped

me and started dating a popular girl. He never said it was over or gave me a reason for dumping me. He just stopped calling, wouldn't talk to me and wouldn't answer my phone calls. I was devastated.

Now that school has started again, I see Rick in the halls. I told him I still love him and would do anything to get back the way we were, and he was very rude. I know I need to move on, but I can't get him out of my heart.

Please help.

- Stuck in St. Louis

Dear Stuck: Part of your prob-

lem may be that you didn't have "closure" when the relationship with Rick was over. For him to have dropped you the way he did was cruel

Perhaps this will help you: I recently attended a conference where a man approached me and stuck out his hand. He said he wanted to thank me for some advice I had given him years ago. Like you, he was having difficulty moving on after a ro-mance had ended. At the time, I told him that he should pretend that his love object had tragically dropped dead. (It happens!) I said that although the person might still be alive, their romance WAS dead, and so were any illusions he had about the person. I also advised him that if he began to obsess again, he should remind himself out loud that he was only playing "old tapes" in his head and to change the channel. He told me that my advice

hadn't been easy to follow, but it had worked for him then and several times subsequently. (I have used the technique myself, and it worked for me.) Give it a try.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby

to Abby on the Internet at http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby Universal Press Syndicate

## Woman must open her eyes to see relationship is over

Dear Annie: I have been in a relationship with "Bob" for seven years, minus a two-year separation. When we got back together, he made comments like, "This time I'm gonna make it work," leading me to believe we had a future together.

A few months ago, I discovered that Bob has been sending expensive presents (more expensive than what he gives me) to his ex-girlfriend, who moved to another state 14 years ago. When I asked him about it, he confessed that he hopes eventually to join her there so they can start a life together.

I know I should have broken up with him right then, but I didn't, because, frankly, I had nothing else going on in my life. Now Bob is planning to take a week's vacation to the ex's town to look at some property. He will be staying at her house.

Bob doesn't have enough money for a down payment, so I think the property thing is just an excuse to see his ex-girl-friend. Bob says he won't be having sex with her. She has a young son, and she won't permit Bob to sleep in her bedroom. (Notice he didn't say it's because

he wants to remain faithful to me.)

My question is, am I being unreasonable to be upset about this vacation? I told Bob that if he goes, our relationship is over, and he can't understand why. What is your opinion of this situation?

Annie's Mailbox — Steady in Boston

Dear Boston: You

Dear postor: You must be joking. Bob has made it clear that he wants a future with his ex-griffiend, and now he is spending a week in her house and possibly looking to invest in a piece of property near her. Your relationship is toost, kiddo, but you keep scraping off the

charcoal, expecting to find something worth keeping. Wish him well and let him go.

**Dear Annie:** I am having a problem with friends of over 50 years

"George" and "Helen" recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. My wife and I sent a beautiful card, congratulating them on their great achievement, and we also left a nice message on their answering machine.

A week later, Helen called my wife to say she was very hurt

because we "didn't even have the decency to invite them out for a cup of coffee to honor the occasion." They haven't spoken to us since.

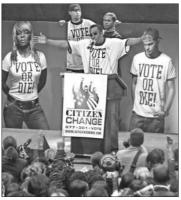
My wife is crushed, but I told her not to feel guilty. It was their anniversary, and they should have invited us over to their house to celebrate with old friends. Am I right or wrong? Either way, our friendship is over.

#### Old Friend in Springfield, Ill.

Dear Springfield: How sad. While you were under no obligation to take George and Helen out for coffee, a 50th anniversary is quite a milestone. The card and phone message were sufficient for conveying your good wishes, but as longtime close friends it would have been a nice gesture to do something extra. If you want to salvage the friendship, call and apologize for not making more out of such an important occasion, and invite them for dinner. If they refuse, you are no worse off.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5717 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate





bove: Hip-hop artist Sean "P. Diddy" Combs walks down the steps of his chartered iet in Milwaukee on Tuesday. Combs, representing Citizen Change, a nonprofit, nonpartisan group, kicked off his "Vote or Die" tour designed to emphasize to young Americans the importance of voting.

Left: Combs leads a crowd during a campaign rally for Sen. John Kerry in Philadelphia on Wednesday.

## P. Diddy's 'Vote or Die' message takes flight

BY DERRIK J. LANG The Associated Press

t first glance, it appeared presidential: A private jet bound for swing states days before the election. A campaign staff. Hungry media. An omnipresent slogan, "Vote or

But there's no candidate -- just Sean "P. Diddy" Combs in all his hip-hop, hype-lov ing glory, putting in work for his nonpartisan organization Citizen Change

The mastermind behind the "Vote or Die!" T-shirts is flying from New York to Milwaukee, Detroit, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Miami on a three-day tour to inform young people and minorities that voting is important and, well, "sexy Here's what went down for the Milwau-

kee and Detroit legs of the tour on Tuesday: 8:46 a.m.: R&B star Mary J. Blige, who spoke alongside Combs, arrived at the airport flashing a hip-hop meets Jackie Onassis look with big sunglasses, a black-and-white petticoat and headband pulling back her

long locks. Combs is nowhere to be seen. 9:18 a.m.: Boarding began. The 52-seat rented iet was one big first-class section. more Hugh Hefner's Big Bunny than Presi dent Bush's Air Force One. It featured comfy burgundy leather seats with brass accouterments, but the personal ashtray each armrest were welded shut.10:08 a.m.: Combs arrived with a pillow and smaller-than-expected entourage, which included burly bodyguards and a petite Maltese named Sophie that resided in its own Louis

Vuitton bag.

10:18 a.m.: Combs, who started Citizen Change earlier this year, strolled through the plane and greeted everyone. He sported a "Vote or Die!" T-shirt, of course, beneath a denim ensemble by Sean John, his personal fashion label.

10:54 a.m.: Cruising altitude. The cap tain turned off the seat belt sign, although most of the members of the media already began prancing around the cabin. Combs, at the front of the plane, worked on the speech he was to give in Milwaukee.

"We wanted to do an extreme makeover of the election process," Combs said about

the motivation behind the tour.

11:27 a.m.: Puffy Air began its descent

Noon: Six-vehicle motorcade, including five SUVs and a party bus arrived. Tom Gast, an admitted non-Puffy fan and the plane's pilot from New York to Milwaukee, eyes the media awaiting Combs' exit from



After introducing R&B singer Mary J. Blige, Combs walks off the stage at Tuesday's "Vote

let them know we have the

the jet. "Even though I'm voting for Bush, I still made the flight as smooth as possible, Gast said

"Kerry isn't smart enough," Combs said later, "Instead of throwing a football around, he should take his butt into the inner-city and see how a young kid is going to school And you don't see Bush taking the time to go to BET or MTV. Nobody was talking to this community. I deal with them every day.

12:29 p.m.: Combs and the **44** I want y'all to bum rush those motorcade rived at downtown Mil polls if you're registered and wankee Area Technical College. A group of fans, gathered outside temporary barricades heg for Combs John Hancock. love his music. an an tographless

power. So that the next election that comes around ... they'll be speaking to you, the forgotten ones, the one they turned their backs on. "" showske. 18. said of Combs. who turns 35 on "And Nov. 4. he's hot."

12:55 p.m.: A mob of students crowded into the 1.800-seat Cooley Auditorium, many screaming and holding up "Vote or Die!" signs while perched aton the theater-style seats. Before Combs emerges on the stage.

MATC President Darnell E. Cole repeatedly warned the throng: "Get off the chairs."

1:03 p.m.: The man entered to some "Vote or Die!" chants and "Pufffy, I love you!" screams. Combs introduced Blige to even more screaming

"I'm gonna get real raw," Blige warned. "I saw 'Fahrenheit 9/11' and I'm about to go there. I'm not afraid because God has taught me one man can change history

Blige's emo. tional anti-war, pro-woman speech elicited a of emorange of emo-tions from the Some crowd yelled "Amen!"; others cried. She said her father went to Vietnam and "came home a nut. And he abused my mother. He abused us through mother. And she abused us because my father abused her." The "Children of

Sean 'P. Diddy' Combs Citizen Change creator the Ghetto" singer blamed the government for brainwashing her parents

"I don't think I want to benefit from a rob bery of innocent poor people's blood who did not deserve to die the same way you do not deserve to die today," Blige says. "But that's what will happen if we do not vote. We will

1:12 p.m.: After Blige's speech, Combs addressed the crowd. He's less emotional,

more focused. "I want y'all to bum rush those polls if you're registered and let them know we have the power," Combs said. "So that the next election that comes around, instead of them speaking to the NRA, AARP, soccer moms, NASCAR dads, they'll be speaking to you, the forgotten ones, the one they turned their backs on

2:10 p.m.: Combs arrived back at the tarmac; Air Force Change wasn't ready to de-part for Detroit yet. So, followed by his 50-person entourage, he walked across the four-lane street to Amelia's a restaurant and lounge specializing in pizza and b

Waitress and Combs fan Tabitha Maki's jaw practically dropped when she saw the hip-hopster enter the eatery. "I have all of his CDs," Maki, 23, said.

But Diddy declined to dine. The plane was eady. "There was no fried chicken," Combs joked. The motorcade arrived to drive every-

one back across the street.

2:29 p.m.: Back on Air Force Change, field director James Gee, who helps Combs write his speeches and usually works on real political campaigns, hasn't slept since yesterday, "One of the reasons Citizen Change has been so successful is because Puffy does real talk," he said before crashing for a catnap. "He doesn't have an ax to grind. He's not against nobody. He's not for nobody except the people

4:22 p.m.: The plane landed in Detroit.

Combs is still energetic. On the ride to the ext rally, the man who once arrived at the MTV Video Music Awards in an 18-wheeler beams about his latest mode of transporta tion, "My plane has a lot of flavor, Later on, going to have mimosas," he promised

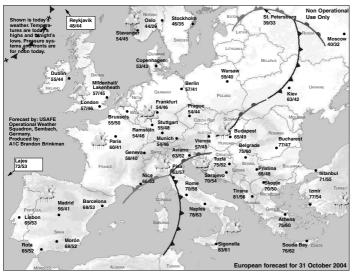
7:12 p.m.: Combs and Blige join actor Le-onardo DiCaprio on an outdoor stage at Wayne State University. The three address the behemoth crowd, more fitting for a concert than a political rally. Together, the trio looks like a sort of surre-

al, postmodern presidential campaign com-mercial — Combs as president, DiCaprio as vice president and Blige as first lady.

Although Combs said he has no political aspirations, it's the sort of image he sees on

"There will be an opportunity to have a woman president, a black president, a Latino president, a gay president," he said.
"Anything's possible if a community flexes its power. That won't happen overnight though. We have to stay focused. We have to

grow our power within politics to be able to break down those barriers



#### **EUROPEAN FORECAST**

Benelux: Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s to lower 60s, Monday lows in the lower 40s to lower 50s.

Britain, Ireland: Partly cloudy with fog. Highs in the mid to upper 50s,

Monday lows in the mid 40s

Croatia and Bosnia: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower to mid 70s, Monday lows in the lower to mid 50s. France: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the low to mid 60s, Monday lows in the lower 40s to mid 50s.

Northern Germany: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s to lower 60s, Monday lows in the 40s.

Southern Germany: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers. Highs in the mid 50s to lower 60s, Monday lows in the mid to upper 40s

Hungary: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the mid 60s, Monday lows in the upper 40s.

Northern Italy: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the low to mid 60s, Monday lows in the lower to mid 50s.

Southern Italy: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the upper 70s to lower 80s, Monday lows in the mid to upper 60s.

Kosovo: Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s to lower 70s, Monday lows in the upper 40s to lower 50s.

Norway: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the mid 40s to mid 50s, Monday lows in the upper 20s to mid 40s.

Portugal, Spain: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the mid 50s to upper 60s, Monday lows in the lower 40s to lower 50s.

Turkey: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the lower 70s to upper 80s, Monday lows in the mid 50s to lower 60s.

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAFE Operational Weather Squadron home

https://ows.sembach.af.mil http://ows.public.sembach.af.mil

## SUN & MOON

7:21am 8:14am 6:12pm 8:04pm First qtr Full moo Nov 27 THE UNITED STATES TODAY

#### TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

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Sunny Pt. Cldy. Mostly cldy

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Scheduled to ETS or PCS Check our Relocation Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.

STARS STRIPES. Your Hometown Newspaper

#### **SCOREBOARD**

#### AFN TV & Radio

ts, 7 a.m. — Auto racing: Busch Se-AFN-Sports, 1 a.m.—Auto racing: busch Se-ries Aaron's 312 (did).

AFN-Sports, 11 a.m.—College football:
Miami at North Carolina (did).

AFN-Atlantic, 11 a.m.—College football:
California at Arizona St.

alifornia at Arizona St. AFN-Sports, 6:30 p.m.—Auto racing: Nextel up Bass pro Shops MBNA 500. AFN-Atlantic, 7 p.m.—NFL: Baltimore at Iphia. Pacific, 7 p.m.—NFL: N.Y. Giants at AFN.D

Afn-Radio, 7 p.m.—NFL: Teams TBD. AFN-Atlantic, 10 p.m.—NFL: New England ttsburgh. N-Pacific, 10 p.m.—NFL: Atlanta at Den-

AFN-Radio, 10 p.m.—NFL: Teams TBD. AFN-Sports, 10:30 p.m.—NFL: Carolina at

#### Monday

AFN-Atlantic, 1:30 a.m.—NFL: Jacksonville at Houston (dld). AFN-Sports, 2:30 a.m.—NFL: San Francisco

AFN-Sports, 2:30 a.m. – Golf: PGA Tour, AFN-Sports, 9 a.m. – Golf: PGA Tour, Chrysler Championship, final round (dld). AFN-Sports, 1:30 a.m. – NFL: Cincinnati at remnessee (did).

AFN-Sports, 7 p.m.—Soccer: MLS playoffs, conference semifinals, New England at Columbus (did).

All times are Central European Time; did in-dicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Some radio broadcasts not available in all areas. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

#### Pro football



lis 24

Lacentus V. Luttles 20

New Orlean S. J. Oddand 26
Open: Pittburgh, Washington, San FranGisco, Housston
Clincinnati 23, Benyer 10
Derroit at Dallmarky, Oct. 31
Arizona at Buffalo
Circinnati at Temessee
Circinnati at Temessee
Jackson/Wile at Houston
Indianacolia st Karisas City
M.Y. Glants at Minnesota
N.Y. Glants at Minnesota
Carolina at Seattie

Oakland at San Diego New England at Pittsburgh San Francisco at Chicago Open: Tampa Bay, St. Louis, New Orleans,

Monday, Nov. 1 Miami at N.Y. Jets

#### Pro soccer

#### Major League Soccer playoffs

Conference Semifinals (Two-leg Aggregate Score Series) Eastern Conference Columbus vs. New England Saturday, Oct. 23

...aus series 1-0 L. Columbus 0, New Englanc Serdey, Ort. 1 New England at Columbus D.C. United vs. MetroStars Saturday, O.C. 3 D.C. United vs. MetroStars Saturday, O.C. 3 D.C. United Series 2-0 leads series 2-0 MetroStars at Survey, et 3.0 MetroStars at Series 2-0 Western Conference

MetroStars at D.C United

Western Conference

Kansas City vs. San Jose

Sunday, Oct. 24

San Jose 2. Kansas City 0. San Jose leads

series 2-0
Saturday, Oct. 30
San Jose at Kansas City
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
Friday, Oct. 22
Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Colorado leads

Saturday, Oct. 30 Colorado at Los Angeles

#### Pro basketball

#### **NBA** preseason



Friday's game Toronto 100, Cleveland 92 Foronto 100, Cleveland 92
Denver 98, Indiana 79
Minnesota 102, Detroit 95
San Antonio 102, New Orleans 86
Phoenix 124, Sacramento 96
Seattle 91, Portland 87
End of Preseason

#### Tennis

#### **Swiss Indoors**

Stefan Koubek, Austria, der. Ivan Ljunicuc, Croatla, 2-6, 7-5, 7-5. Nicolas Massu (7), chile, def. Bohdan Uli-rach, Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4). Jiri Novak, Czech Republic, def. Tim Hen-man (2), Britain, 7-6 (5), 7-6, 7-6 (5), 6-3. Levid Nathandian (4), Argentina, def. Rain-er Schuettler (6), Germany, 4-6, 7-6 (5), 6-3.

#### St. Petersburg Open

St. Petersburg Open
At Petersburgh SCC
At Petersbur

Quarterfinals
Mikhail Youzhry (4), Russia, def. Julien
Benneteau, France, 6-0, 6-1.
Michael Lidora, (7), France, def. Marat
Michael Lidora, (7), France, def. Marat
Karol Beek, Slovakia, def. Cyril Saulnier,
France, 6-3, 7-6 (3).
Greg Rusedski, Britalin, def. Ivo Karlovic,
Croatla, 6-4, 7-6 (7).

#### Stockholm Open

Asturday Ast

Friday
Quarterfinals
Andre Agassi (1), United States, def.
Fernando Verdasso (8), Spain, 7-6 (4), 6-2.
Rochus, Belgium, 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-4.
Michael Ryfestedt, Sweden, 6-4, Joachin
Johnston (2), Sweden, 5-5-5 retired,
Pavel (3), Romanian, Sweden, 6-4. Thomas Johansson, Sweden, def. Andrei Pavel (3), Romania, 6-3, 7-5 (4).

#### Generali Ladies Open

Saturday At Intersport Arena Linz Linz, Austria Purse: \$585,500 (Tier II)

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#### **SEAT Open**

SEAT Open
At Cx Sportcenter Koeletsheuer
Purses 222,500 (Ter III)
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Surface Bard-Hodor
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Elia (2), Nut. Surface, Get. Silvia Farina
Elia (2), Nut. Surface, Get. Silvia Farina
Elia (3), Nut. Silvia Farina
Elia (4), Nut. Silvia Farina
Elia (4), Nut. Silvia Farin

#### College football

#### Friday's scores

MIDWEST
Crown 27, Maranatha Baptist 21
Principia 46, Trinity Bible 22
FAR WEST
Boise St. 69, Hawaii 3

#### AP Top 25 fared

How the OS teams in The Associated Prox Cells (1987) and the Prox Cell

NO. 5 Fronta State (A).

NO. 6 Wisconsin (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 24 Minnesota, Nov. 6.

NO. 7 California (5-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 20 Arizona State, Saturday.

NO. 8 Texas (6-1) did not play. Next: at Colo-

No. 20 Autrona State, Saturday,
No. 21 East, 61 - 10 din or play, Next at ColoNo. 9 Usala (7-0) din or play, Next at ColoNo. 9 Usala (7-0) din or play, Next at ColoNo. 9 Usala (7-0) din or play, Next at ColoNo. 9 Usala (7-0) din or play, Next at ColoNo. 10 Georgia (6-1) din or play, Next at ColoNo. 10 Georgia (6-1) din or play, Next at ColoNo. 10 Georgia (8-1) din or play, Next at ColoNo. 14 Coursiville (5-1) din or play, Next at Mempils, Nov. 4
No. 15 World (6-1) din or play, Next at ColoNo. 15 World (6-1) din or play, Next at ColoNo. 15 World (6-1) din or play, Next at ColoNo. 15 World (6-1) din or play, Next at Saturday,
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No. 24 Minnesota (6-2) did not play. Next: at Indiana, Saturday. No. 25 Southern Mississippi (5-1) did not play. Next: vs. Cincinnati, Nov. 6.

#### Friday No. 18 Boise St. 69, Hawaii 3 3 0 0 0-3 7 17 38 7-69

lawaii olse St. First Quarter Haw-FG Ayat 38, 10:32 BSU-Zabransky 9 run (T.Jones kick), 1:38. Second Quarter RSU-Helmandollar 3 run (T.Jones kick), USU6 BSU-Zabransky 1 run (T.Jones kick), 8:33 BSU-FG T.Jones 34, :00. Third Quarter BSU-FG T.Jones 24, 10:58

BSU-Helmandollar 4 run (T.Jones kick),

1.25
BSU – Q. Jones 38 run (T.Jones kick), 7:47
BSU – Zabransky 1 run (T.Jones kick), 4:01
BSU – Zabransky 8 run (T.Jones kick), 4:01
BSU – Cabransky 8 run (T.Jones kick), 1:03.
BSU – Barrios 50 interception return T.Jones kick), 12:04
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#### High school

Saturday's Europe scores
Cross Country
GADO meters at Needberry
GADO meters at Needberry
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120, Frankur termanian School 10.1 Winnert 10.1 W

Wiesaucei 20, Marzburg 0 at Heidelberg Heidelberg 30, Würzburg 0 at Heidelberg Division II semifinals SHAPE 21, Naples 7 at Naples Hanau , International School of Brussels at

Brussels

Division III semifinals

Baumholder 19, Hohenfels 14 at Baumholder
Ansbach 45, Bamberg 14 at Ansbach

(European championships at Wiesbaden)

Singles championship: Devin Hayes
(Hanau) def. Jun Kolde (International School of Brussels) 6-3, 6-3, 6-1, Milkylas Servance

of Brussels) 6-3, 6-3.

Doubles championship: Nikolas Serpanos and Ken Koide (International School of Brussels) def. Matt Omdal and Matt Luthman (Ramstein) 7-5, 5-7, 6-4.

Singles championship: Flavia Cirrinchione (Natur

Singles champers of the Action Service of th

Boys (Saturday at Vicenza) viano def. Vicenza 21-25, 25-13, 25-13,

5-21
(Saturday at American Overseas School of tome: individual game scores unavailable)
AOSR def. Naples 3-1
AOSR def. Naples 3-0
Naples def. Sigonella 3-0
Naples def. Sigonella 2-0
Si Girls (Saturday at Brussels) Brussels def. Giessen 24-26, 25-18, 25-13, -26, 15-10 Baumholder

24-20, 15-10 Baumholder def. Glessen 18-25, 25-20, 25-10, 25-9 lder def. Brussels 25-13, 25-16.

irday at American Overseas School of individual game scores unavailable) es def. AOSR 3-0 bella def. AOSR 3-0 bella def. Naples 3-0 (Saturday at Lakenheath) nheath def. Heidelberg 25-17, 25-20, Lakenheath def. Mannheim 25-8, 25-10, 25-15. delherg def. Mannheim 25-10, 25-2 and

(Saturday at SHAPE) def. SHAPE 25-15, 25-23, 2 Namuday at SHAPE; Hanau def. SHAPE 25-15, 25-23, 25-23 Ramstein def. Hanau 25-17, 25-19, 25-10 Ramstein def. SHAPE 25-12, 25-10, 25-15 SHAPE IV def. Hanau JV 25-0, 25-22, 25-11, Ramstein JV def. Hanau JV 25-9, 25-18, 25-23, Famstein JV def. SHAPE JV 22-25, 25-23, Ramstein 25-19, 25-23

(Saturday at Vicenza)

Vicenza def. Livorno 25-11, 25-23, 25-20 Aviano def. Livorno 25-2, 25-8, 25-15 Aviano def. Vicenza 25-15, 25-10, 25-20 (Saturday at Hohenfels) Ansbach def. Hohenfels 25-27, 25-23, 27-25,

25-20 Ansbach def. Bamberg 25-23, 25-7, 25-18. Hohenfels def. Bamberg 25-20, 19-25, 25-20, 25-14 Hohenfels JV def. Bamberg JV 27-25, 28-26, 25-18

Jishoenles JV del. Bambery IV 27-25, 28-21.

Saturday at Kalserslautery
Frankfurt International School del. WiesFrankfurt International School del. WiesFrankfurt International School del. WiesFrankfurt International School del. WiesIS del. Auberslauter 32-23, 25-13, 25-13
Kalserslautern del. Wieshaden 25-16,
Staturday at Kandern, Germay)
Black Torest Academy del. Bitburg 25-12,
Staturday 19-25-12, 25-21, 25-21, 25-21
Patch del. Bitburg 25-16, 25-14, 25-11
Patch del. Bitburg 25-16, 25-14, 25-21
London Central del. Merwith Hill 25-10, 25-11,
Z5-116, 25-21
Z5-10, 25-21
Z5-210, 2

Alconbury def. Menwith Hill 25-10, 25-11, 25-5 Alconbury def. London Central 25-22, 25-23, 25-14

#### Golf

#### **Chrysler Championship**

Friday
At Westin Innisbrook Golf Club
Palm Harbor Fla.
Purse: \$5 million
Yardage: 7,340; Par 71
Second Round
an Byrd

66-66-132 62-70-132 70-64-134 69-65-134 65-69-134 Jonathan Byrd Jeff Sluman Jeff Sluman
Tommy Armour III
Rod Pampling
Vijay Singh
Kent Jones
Kirk Triplett
Vaughn Taylor
Jesper Parnevik
Justin Rose
Carl Pattersson 69-65-134 65-69-134 64-71-135 64-71-135 70-65-135 68-67-135 65-71-136 Justin Rose Carl Pettersson Robert Allenby Jay Haas Stephen Leaney

68-68-136 70-67-137 67-70-137 67-70-137 Briny Baird Jose Maria Olazabal 70-68-138

70-68-138

70-69-139 71-68-139 68-71-139 68-71-139 70-69-139 i cchia 70-70-140 68-72-140 72-08-140 70-70-140 68-72-140

72-68-140 70-71-141

Craig Parry Carlos Franco Billy Mayfair Tom Carter J.L. Lewis Fred Funi Bob Este Pat Bates Stephen Ames Tag Ridings

John Huston Kenny Perry Brian Batemi Joe Durant Lee Janzen Ryan Palmer David Toms

David Toms Charles Howell III Bernhard Langer Loren Roberts Mark Calcavecchi Woody Austin Tim Herron Geoff Collection

Tim Herron Geoff Ogilvy Arron Oberholser Aaron Baddeley Skip Kendall Hidemichi Tanaka

69-72-141 69-72-141 71-70-141 Spike McRo Matt Kucha CJ Nine Bridges Classic

Saturday At Nine Bridges Club Course Jeju, South Korea Purse: \$1.35 millon Yardage: 6,306; Par: 72 Second Round

Kate Golden Grace Park Soo-Yun Kang Shi Hyun Ahn Jill McGill Se Ri Pak Annika Sorens Annika Sorenstam
Jeong Jang
Carin Koch
Patricia Meunier-Lebouc
Stacy Prammanasudh
Mi Hyun Kim
Lorena Ochoa
Karen Stupples
a-Jane Park
Hyun Ju Shi
Shern Stein Park
Voune-A Yann

atriona Matt oung-A Yang lee-Won Han Hee-Won no... Grace Lee Laura Davies Laura Diaz Hyun Hee Moon

Kim Saiki Heather Bowle Gloria Park Janice Moodie Jamie Hullett

## No. 18 Boise St. crushes Chang, Hawaii

## Warriors QB ends up career leader in interceptions, not yards, in 69-3 loss

The Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho - Hawaii's Timmy Chang is still chasing the Division I-A passing and that's exactly what record, Boise State wanted.

Just when it seemed as if Ty Detmer's record of 15,031 yards passing was going to fall, No. 18 Boise State played its best defen-sive game of the season.

Chang finished 14 yards short of the record Friday night, and Boise State gave up just first-quarter field goal in a 69-3 route of Hawaii that extended the Broncos' winning streak to 19 games, the longest in the country.

Chang had not been held to less than 294 yards passing this season, but Boise State's defense allowed just 227 yards and made sure the only record Chang set was a dubious one.

Chang was intercepted four times, and he broke the Division I-A career interception record of 74 held by former Purdue quarterback Mark Herrmann

Chang's performance became a footnote to a Boise State offense that scored 69 straight points, in-

cluding 38 in the third quarter. The Broncos won their 23rd straight Western Athletic Conference game and 24th in a row at



Hawaii QB Timmy Chang fell 14 yards short of Ty Detmer's NCAA career passing yardage record, but threw four interceptions to break Mark Herrmann's Division I-A career record of 74.

"People kept asking us, 'How are you going to stop those guys?" Boise State coach Dan Hawkins said. "Well, our guys stepped up. I couldn't be happi-

Instead of Chang being the quarterback in the spotlight, it was Boise State's Jared Zabransky who had a record-setting night

The Broncos' sophomore ran for 123 vards and four touchdowns, including a school-record



Boise State quarterback Jared Zabransky ran for 123 yards and four touchdowns, including a school-record 85-vard TD run in the third quarter. Zabransky also passed for 164 yards.

85-yard TD run in the third quarter. He also passed for 164 yards. The four touchdowns tied a school record.

It was the second straight week Boise State's running game excelled. Last week against Fresno State, the Broncos rushed 55 times for 164 yards.

Friday night, Boise State was far more successful, gaining 425 yards on 50 carries. It was the Broncos' highest rushing total since moving up to Division I-A in

"That 85-yard run was pretty nice, Zabransky said. "The guys up front did a great job." Five Bronces

than 50 yards against a Hawaii run defense ranked 106th in the Leading 24-3 at halftime, the

Broncos blew the game open in the third quarter, scoring on all six of their possessions Tyler Jones kicked a 24-yard field goal on Boise State's opening possession of the half. Jon Hel-

mandollar had a 4-yard TD run, and Quinton Jones followed with a 38-yard scoring run, and Zabransky added two TDs. Jeff Carpenter capped the quarter with a 26-yard run with 3 seconds

"I thought two years ago when we played Hawaii, that was about as close to a perfect as I've ever been involved with," Hawkins said of the Broncos' 58-31 home victory in 2002. "I think this was probably better. It was unbeliev-

The Broncos improved to 4-0 against the Warriors since joining

the conference in 2001 Chang entered the game need-Chang entered the game needing 241 yards to break the record Detmer set from 1988-91. But Boise State's pass defense — ranked 103rd in the country frustrated Chang into his worst performance of the season.

With chants Timmy!" from th from the near-sellout crowd at Bronco Stadium, Chang completed 26 of 53 passes. His last pass was incomplete on fourth-and-1 at the Boise State 11 with 6:09 remaining.

"I didn't throw with accuracy and we didn't sustain drives. Chang said. "You do those things against a great team like Boise State and it's not going to work out.

Last week, Boise State held Fresno State to just 17 rushing vards and 191 total vards.

'It was my dream tonight to shut Chang down," Broncos cornerback Gabe Franklin said 'They were a powerhouse and we shut them down.

Chang threw all four intercepthe second half, with Chris Barrios returning the last one 50 yards for a touchdown with 12:04 left.

The Broncos had 533 yards of offense by the end of the third quarter and finished with 589 The 66-point margin tied for the worst road loss in Hawaii history. matching a 66-0 loss at Wyoming in 1996

Hawaii (3-4, 3-3) is 0-3 on the road this season and has been out-scored 158-52 away from home. The Warriors had won three of their last four games.

## Newman wins 4th straight Atlanta pole

Ninth-place driver in chase for Nextel Cup championship still seeking first victory at track

BY PAUL NEWBERRY

The Associated Press

HAMPTON, Ga. - Ryan Newman will start Sunday's NASCAR race from a familiar spot - the pole.

Newman won his third straight pole and eighth of the year Friday night, grabbing the top spot for the Bass Pro Shops MBNA 500 with a speed of 191.575 mph in a Dodge at Atlanta Motor Speedway. This has become downright routine for New-

man, who has won the pole in 26 of his 113 career races. He's led that category the last two years, and has two more poles than anyone else this season. "That's the toughest part. We have no ex-

cuse now," Newman said. "We've proved we're the fastest race car on a given lap. We have to be able to do that for 60 laps in a row Kurt Busch, who holds a 96-point lead over

Jeff Gordon in the championship chase, quali-fied 22nd at 187.722. Gordon seeking his fifth NASCAR title, will start 10th. When it comes to qualifying, Newman ha

been unbeatable on this 1.54-mile trioval. He claimed his fourth straight Atlanta pole, but has yet to win a Nextel Cup race at the track. Joe Nemechek claimed the outside of the front row at 191.318 — a mere 39-thousandths of a second off Newman's time.

Nemechek has emerged as one of the best qualifiers on the circuit, claiming back-to-back poles at Talladega and Kansas City earlier this month

We've been on a roll," he said

Elliott Sadler took the third spot at 191.080. Truck series star Carl Edwards will make the best start of his Nextel Cup career, posting the fourth-fastest speed (191,080)



Ryan Newman won this third straight Nextel Cup pole and series-high eighth of the season Friday night at Atlanta Motor Speedway. Newman has won the pole for 26 of his 113 career races.

Greg Biffle, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Mark Martin, Jimmie Johnson, Kevin Harvick and Gordon completed the top 10.

Teammates Gordon and Johnson - the winner the past two weeks - were back on the track just five days after a team plane crashed while en route to Martinsville, Va., for last weekend's race

The crash killed 10, including the son, brother and twin nieces of team owner Rick Hen-drick, along with his general manager and chief engine builder.

As for Hendrick's other drivers, Brian Vickers was 13th and Terry Labonte had to take a provisional spot after finishing way back in

Fifty-eight drivers attempted to make the

43-car field, the most since 59 hit the track for the 1999 Daytona 500.

Among those sent home: Scott Riggs and Scott Wimmer, both failing to make a race for the first time this year, and Earnhardt's older brother, Kerry. "It's the end of the year, and so many teams

are bringing out their test teams and their new teams for next year," Nemechek said. The sport is too competitive for teams that have problems coming into Friday. You've got to be on your game every time you're on the track

Home state favorite Bill Elliott barely made it in, claiming the 38th — and final — spot based on time. The Dawsonville native will race for the sixth time this year in a limited schedule.

#### **Bass Pro Shops** MBNA 500 lineup

NASCAR Nextel Cup After Friday qualifying; race Sunday At Atlanta Motor Speedway Hampton, Ga.

After Friday Cast September 1, 1987 Apr. All All September 1, 1987 Apr. All All September 1, 1987 Apr. All All September 1, 1987 Apr. All September 2, 1987

233 Bobby Hamilton Jr., Chevrolet, S. (84) Kije Busch, Chevvloet, I. S6780. 8, (42) Jamie McMurray, Dodge, 186.755. (51) Tony Raines, Chevrolet, 186.535. (23) Shane Hmilet, Dodge, 186.522. (23) Shane Hmilet, Dodge, 186.252. (23) Shane Hmilet, Dodge, 186.252. (33) Shane Hmilet, Dodge, 186.252. (34) Hard Furture, Dodge, 186.252. (34) Jeff Green, Dodge, 186.252. (36) Heff Derich, Dodge, 186.258. (46) Ken Schrader, Dodge, 186.258. (48) Ken Schrader, Dodge, 185.874. (48) Ken Schrader, Dodge, 185.874. (49) Ken Schrader, Dodge, 185.876. (15) Midnale Multip, Chevrolete, provisional. (15) Midnale Multip, Chevrolete, provisional. (15) Midnale Multip, Chevrolete, provisional.

al. 43. (21) Ricky Rudd, Ford, provisional. Failed to qualify 44. (10) Scott Riggs, Chevrolet, 185.164. 45. (22) Scott Wimmer, Dodge, 184.603. 46. (33) Kerry Earnhardt, Chevr. 184.413.

464 (13) kerry Earnhardt, Chevrolet, 44 (13) kerry Earnhardt, Chevrolet, 183.765, 44 (10) kerry Sautler, Dodge, 183.765, 48 (10) kerry Mallacc, Chevrolet, 183.426, 48 (10) kerry Mallacc, Chevrolet, 183.426, 51 (16) Randy Lablet, Pord, 182.147, 52 (13) Greg Sacks, Dodge, 182.487, 52 (13) Greg Sacks, Dodge, 182.487, 52 (13) Greg Sacks, Dodge, 182.487, 53 (19) Larry Foyt, Dodge, 183.425, 55 (19) Morgan Shepherd, Dodge, 178.179, 55 (19) Morgan Shepherd, Dodge, 178.179, 56 (19) Andy Belmont, Ford, 175.549, 177, 190.

## Miller out 4-6 weeks after breaking hand

The Associated Desca

INDIANAPOLIS — When Indiana Pacers coach Rick Carlisle was told Reggie Miller will miss 4-6 weeks with a broken left hand, he couldn't help but think the worst.

"Hopefully they won't tell me six to eight weeks tomorrow," Carlisle said.

After a disastrous preseason, his pessimism is certainly warranted.

Miller, the third Indiana starter to go down with an injury, broke a bone in his non-shooting hand in the first quarter of the Pacers' 98-79 exhibition loss to

the Denver Nuggets on Friday.
"Obviously, now it's a great
thing that we have an extra
two-guard over there," Carlisle
said, referring to Stephen Jackson and Fred Jones.

son and Fred Jones.
Indiana is already without Jermaine O'Neal (strained left foot ligament), Jeff Foster (hip), Anthony Johnson (broken hand), David Harrison (shoulder) and Jonathan Bender (knee).

Carlisle said Friday that O'Neal might miss the regular-season opener next week, while Foster and Johnson are expected to be sidelined 6-8 weeks after initial estimates had them both missing 4-6 weeks. The Pacers are hoping Harrison and Bender will be ready for the opener on Wednesday at

Jackson, acquired in a trade with Atlanta for Al Harrington, will start in Miller's place and Jones will get more minutes off the bench.

"There's only one way to respond," Jones said. "We have to go out there and start winning games. We just have to go out and do our thing. We'll just switch the roles around."

switch the roles around."
With Jackson, a scorer and clutch shooter, the Pacers should not miss much of a beat without the aging Miller, the team's career scoring leader. But the Pacers will miss Jackson's offensive output and yeter

an experience off the bench.
"We're going to have to make
some changes based on the situation we're in now," Carlisle said.
"We're going to have to be a precise team in the short term."

All the injuries put more pressure on Ron Artest, the team's No. 2 scorer last season, to come through on both ends of the floor, which is just fine with

"We're going to be fine," said Artest, who had 24 points, seven rebounds and three steals Friday night. "I'll make sure we'll be all right."

## Stern touts NBA's TV network

NEW YORK — In this age of niche cable networks, David Stern has some easy instructions for NBA fans.

"When you tire of watching Emeril on the Food Network, we expect you to turn to NBA TV to watch the New Orleans Hornets. When you tire of watching 'Cribs' on MTV, we expect you to move to NBA TV so you can watch the houses of the rich and famous NBA players, 'the NBA commissioner said. "We've got it all for the basketball fan."

the basketball fan."

As NBA TV approaches its fifth
anniversary, and its second full
season of televising games, the
league finds itself in the interesting position of building up its own
network and drawing viewers to
the channel while still offering it
as a supplement to its broadcast
partners at ABC, ESPN and Turners Storts.

The NBA is certainly not the only league facing this challenge — or opportunity, depending on how the situation is viewed. The NFL has its own channel and Major League Baseball is getting ready to launch one of its own. The NHL, in the midst of a player lockout, has a channel in Canada and is looking into broadcasting in the United States. College sports, auto racing, golf and tennis are some of the other sports with entire channels dedicated to



"We're going to reach the stage when every big-time professional league will have one," said Neal Pilson, media consultant and former CBS Sports president. "It's a natural outgrowth of the importance of these leagues."

Now available in 66 million homes (though only about 10 million actually have it) and seen in 40 countries following a recent agreement with Hong Kong, NBA TV will air 96 regular-season games in 2004-05 and select games in the first round of the playoffs.

Stern says there are no plans to expand the network's game coverage, noting that between the league's network, ABC, TNT and ESPN and ESPN2, there are NBA games on television every night

of the week.
"Ninety-six is a robust num-

ber," Stern said.

TNT airs 52 games this season,
ESPN and ESPN2 combine to air
75 and ABC has 23 games (10 regional) as well as the NBA Finals.

#### Suns buy out contract, then waive Eisley

PHOENIX — The Phoenix Suns waived guard Howard Eisley after buying out his contract

on Friday. Terms of the buyou

were not disclosed.

The 31-year-old Eisley played 34 games for the Suns last season after being acquired on Jan. 5 in a multiplayer trade that sent Stephon Marbury and Penny Hardaway to the New York Knicks.

#### Jazz sign Kirilenko

to contract extension
SALT LAKE CITY — Andrei
Kirilenko signed a 6-year, \$86 million contract extension with the
Utah Jazz, a deal that took three
months to negotiate.

"This is the team which I love and is where I want to stay for the rest of my career," Kirilenko said Friday. "It's pretty nice to be a part of this team—of a family actually. It's my family for the next seven years."

The fourth-year All-Star forward from Russia has been with the team longer than any other current player. The extension kicks in next season and is for the maximum amount allowed under the NBA's collective bargaining agreement.

It completed a long summer for vice president for basketball operations Kevin O'Connor, who added restricted free agents Carlos Boozer and Mehmet Okur to the Jazz in July.

With Kirilenko, 23, Boozer, 22, and Okur, 25, Utah appears set in the frontcourt for several years.

Kirilenko led the Jazz in scoring last year with a 16.2 average.

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## **Garciaparra becomes a free agent**

### Red Sox keep 3B Mueller; Lowell, Marlins agree on new contract

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - While the Boston Red Sox prepared for their victory parade, their former All-Star shortstop, Nomar Garciaparra, filed for free agency

Until he was dealt to the Chicago Cubs on July 31 as part of a



had spent his entire career -8½ years with the Red Sox, who beat St. Louis on Wednesday to complete their World

Series sweep Garciaparra has said he would consider returning to Chicago, and General Manager Jim Hendry has already spoken with his agent, Arn Tellem. But Garciaparra also wants to test the free agent market for the first time in his ca-

"I'm going to experience something I never experienced in the offseason," Garciaparra said on the last day of the season. "Like I said, this is one of the places I'll consider. No question.

But there likely will be plenty of other suitors for the five-time All-Star and two-time AL batting champion. Though Garciaparra was slowed by injuries to his Achilles' tendon, left wrist and

- he hit .308 with nine homers and 41 RBIs for the Red Sox and

Garciaparra batted .321 in 38 games with Boston and .297 in 43 games with the Cubs.

In their first move since winning their first Series title since 1918, the Red Sox exercised a \$2.5 million option Friday on third baseman Bill Mueller instead of paying a \$500,000 buy-

"We have tremendous ownership. We have a great fan base We have a great nucleus. We have a lot of resources," Mueller said Wednesday night. "Maybe we can contend for this every sin-

The 2003 AL batting champion .283 with 12 homers and 57 RBIs this season. Mueller, limited to 110 games by arthroscopic surgery on his right knee, had the tving single against the New York Yankees' Mariano Rivera in the ninth inning of Game 4 of the AL championship series starting Rose ton's comeback from an 0-3 defi-

Boston, scheduled to be honored in a parade Saturday, has up to 16 players eligible for free agency, including pitchers Terry Adams and Pedro Astacio, who were among 58 players to file Friday, raising the total to 123 of the 215 potentially eligible.

Cardinals shortstop Edgar Renteria filed along with catcher Mike Matheny and outfielder Ray

29, is expected to be one of the Cardinals' top priorities. He bat-ted .287 with 10 home runs and 72 RBIs this season.

Florida All-Star third baseman Mike Lowell, who could have onted out of his contract agreed to a new contract with the Florida Marlins that guarantees the remaining \$25.5 million his previous deal called for.

Lowell signed a \$32 million, 4-year contract before last season with a provision that if an agreement

for a new ball-

in place by

voided and

park was not Monday, the final two seasons would be Lowell would have a player ontion

"I was honeful that things would work out because I want to be a Florida Marsaid Lowell, a three-time All-Star who hit .293 with 27 home runs and 85 RBIs last season, "It would have been hard for me to play under a one-year

Cincinnati exercised first base man Sean Casey's \$8.5 million option for 2006

"The fact that they picked up the contract shows me they want me to be here," he said. Cincinnati shortstop Barry Larkin and Cleveland shortstop Omar Vizquel filed for free agen cy along with Colorado third baseman Vinny Castilla, who declined a \$2.1 million mutual option after hitting 35 homers in his first sea-



and leading the NL with Texas dean tion on Rusty

Greer and

Castilla

will give a \$600,000 buvout to the injured outfielder, who hasn't played since July 11, 2002, but has collected \$21.8 million for the

2002, 2003 and 2004 seasons. The Rangers also declined a \$4 million option on outfielder Brian Jordan, who will get a \$125,000 The Yankees declined a \$3 mil-

lion option on first baseman Travis Lee and a \$3.6 million 2006 option on reliever Paul Quantrill. Lee gets a \$250,000 buyout and Ouantrill a \$400,000 buy-

The Cubs exercised their \$2 million option on right-hander Ryan Dempster, and Detroit declined a \$1.1 million option on right-hander Al Levine, instead giving him a \$100,000 buyout.

Boston Red Sox

star David Ortiz

waves to cheer ing fans as he

holds the World

Series trophy

during the pa-

rade in Bostor

to five million

were expected

to jam the city's

streets to cele-

Series victory.

brate the Red

Sox's World

on Saturday. Up

smiles and

### Rangers' Francisco pleading not guilty

OAKLAND, Calif. - Texas Rangers reliever Frank Fran-

cisco pleaded not guilty Friday to a misdemeanor assault charge for breaking a woman's nose tossing a in into

his

MLB briefs

the stands at an Oakgame.

attorney said.

Francisco could face o year in county jail and a maximum three years' probation if con-victed. A felony charge carried a possible penalty of three years in state prison. The pitcher was not re-

quired to appear Friday in Alameda County Superior Court for his arraignment. 'We have no intention of

pleading guilty to that charge, said his attorney, Rick Minkoff. "I was hopeful ... that there wouldn't be any criminal charges. We'll just have to

Francisco hurled a plastic chair into the right field seats after fans near the Rangers bullnen began heckling the team during the Rangers' loss to the A's on Sept. 13

The chair struck Jennifer Bueno of Livermore, breaking

Francisco was suspended for 15 games and has since returned to his home in the Dominican Republic.

#### after law enforcement

NEW YORK - The baseball commissioner's office will wait until after a government investigation to examine whether there has been a relationship between New York Mets reliever John Franco and alleged mobsters.

Franco has given people associated with the Bonanno crime family free tickets for Mets games and passes to visit him in the clubhouse, ganglandnews.com reported Thursday. Prosecutors may ask Franco to testify in the trial of Vito Rizzuto, the Web site reported, adding that Franco arranged in 1993 for alleged mob sters to get tickets for a Mets game in Montreal. Franco wouldn't comment

on the specifics of the report.

#### Tigers make roster moves

DETROIT - The Detroit Tigers declined a \$1.1 million op-tion on pitcher Al Levine on Friday and have agreed to a one-year contract with pitcher Jamie Walker.

Levine, a right-hander, was 3-4 with a 458 ERA in 65 games for the Tigers last season. Walker, a left-hander was 3-4 with a 3.20 ERA in 70 games this year and was 8-8 with a 3.38 ERA over three sea-

## **Red:** Parade draws hundreds of thousands

Police said 10 people were arrested, 12 people were taken to hospitals for treatment of minor injuries and 30 people were treated on the street Martinez looked stunned when

hit by the ball, putting his hand to his forehead. The ball was later seen floating in the water as the boat continued down the river for the final leg of the parade. Jim Averill, 42, of Boston, said

the ball was thrown at a high speed from the river bank. He said pitcher Derek Lowe tried to catch it before it struck Martinez.

"It hit him and it flew up about 15 feet and fell into the water," he said Wild cheers greeted the Red

Sox players when they arrived at Fenway Park before the parade. At an impromptu rally on the field, manager Terry Francona said his team always had what it took to win even if his scruffy players — who dubbed themselves "idiots" - didn't always "They may not wear their hair

normal, they many not dress normal, but they play the game as good as you can," Francona said.

During the parade, several players hoisted signs that said "Idiots

That the World Series victory



came at the expense of the Yankees, whom the Red Sox beat in a historic comeback in the playoffs, made it that much sweeter

"Every Red Sox fan from now on can walk into Yankee stadium with their head high," catcher Jason Varitek said Because so many fans were ex-

pected in Boston to celebrate the team's World Series triumph, the plan for the parade did not include any stops or a staged rally.

"I understand the problem where do you stick 5 million people?" fan Dave Henry said.

Authorities would not let fans

Plaza, where the New England Patriots held rallies after they won the Super Bowl twice in the past three years.

"Let's face it, you get a crowd that size and it's very unpredictable," Police Commissioner Kathleen O'Toole told The Associated Press on Friday. "One of the reasons we're not having one particular rally location is that we're concerned that it could be a danger-

"It's going to be a great parade," O'Toole said. "If they're along a long parade route, they're going to have a better vantage point than being at a rally that's potentially dangerous where they can't see a thing. I think it's a great thing, and I hope tomorrow is an exciting and safe day for ev-

The theme of the parade was We kept the faith, now let's keep the peace," in hopes of preventing rowdiness or violence, like the deadly frenzy that erupted after Boston's Game 7 win over the Yankees in the playoffs. An Emerson College student was killed by a pepper-spray pellet fired by police trying to control the crowd of 80,000 revelers.

## **Authorities deny misconduct in BALCO investigation**

The Associated Descr

The Associated Press
SAN FRANCISCO — Federal prosecutors deny any misconduct during the investigation of a personal trainer charged with distributing illegal steroids to some top athletes, according to court documents filed Friday.

Prosecutors filed the documents, which contained potentially damaging evidence against San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds, in response to defendants' attorneys accusations of miscon-

duct and other allegations.

Personal trainer Greg Anderson, Victor Conte, founder of Bay

Area Laboratory Co-Operative, and two other men, BALCO vice president James Valente and track coach Remi Korchemy, are charged with distributing steroids, including the previously un-

detectable THG, to top athletes. Charges also include possession of human growth hormone, misbranding drugs with intent to

defraud and money laundering.

All have pleaded not guilty, and their attorneys have said they would seek to have charges dis-

missed.

Also revealed Friday in the court documents was Conte's al-

leged statements to Internal Revenue Service agent Jeff Novitzky in 2003 that Bonds regularly visited his lab for steroids, according to reports on ESPN.com and the San Francisco Chronicle's web

They cite a memorandum of Novitsky's interview with Conte submitted by the U.S. Attorney's office in San Francisco along with the other documents.

Conte has denied the allegations, and Bonds has denied ever having used steroids. The slugger

has not been charged.

Attorneys for the four defen-

dants have claimed their clients were subjected to illegal searches and coerced by investigators.

An attorney for Anderson claims leaks by government officials and misconduct by the lead investigator are sufficient grounds for dismissal.

Anderson was the trainer for Bonds, who was among dozens of athletes called to testify before the grand jury in November and December of 2003.

Anderson's attorney, Anna Ling, is seeking to suppress evidence and statements investigators said her client made. Ling alleged in a motion filed earlier this month that Anderson was detained illegally in his house and was not advised of his right to

have an attorney present.

According to an investigator's report made public Friday, Anderson told agents "he didn't think he should be talking anymore because he didn't want to go to jail" after they confronted him with a

file containing Bonds' name.

The federal agents also stated in their reports they seized calendars and other documents detailing the use of steroids by professional baseball players during the search of Anderson's home.

## Sluman, Byrd tied at 10 under in Chrysler

\_\_\_\_\_

PALM HARBOR, Fla. — Jeff Sluman and Jonathan Byrd were tied for the lead at the Chrysler Championship, both knowing the tournament really doesn't start until the weekend.

For Paul Azinger, Olin Browne and a host of others, their season

ended Friday.
Sluman was eight shots worse
than his course-record 62 in the
opening round, missing a
half-dozen good looks at birdie
but still playing solidly from tee
to green for a 1-under 70. Byrd
bitzed the back nine for the second straight day and shot another
66

"Some days it's easy, and some days it's a little more difficult." said Sluman, who never had the lead to himself in the second round and wound up tied with Byrd at IQuuder 13.

In the final full-field tournament of the year, perhaps it was no surprise that the top five guys already have their cards locked up for next year, with no worries about where they are on the

money list.
Vijay Singh, moving closer to a
\$10 million year, had a 69 and
was only two shots behind. Also at
8-under 134 was International
winner Rod Pampling (65) and
Tommy Armour III (64), exempt
through 2005 for his record-setting victory last year in the Texas
Open.

"You certainly shouldn't be surprised to see Vijay up there," Sluman said of the No. 1 player in



golf who is going for his sixth victory in his last eight starts. The real

The real shock was Azinger, one of several players who had their bubbles

burst at Innisbrook.

Azinger is No. 123 on the
money list and opened with a 75.

He played hard and got to 1
under, seemingly safe to make
the cut at even par. But he missed
the green on the par-3 8th, his
17th hole, and took a bogey.

He ripped a good drive on 9, but his 8-iron to 40 feet left him a difficult putt that swung sharply to the right. Azinger knocked that some 12 feet by, and he missed the par putt for a 68 to miss the cut by one shot.

Azinger walked briskly out of the scoring trailer and screamed in disgust.

"You hate to see that," said Sluman, who played with Azinger. "I'm sure he'll beat himself up over that."

Browne, No. 125 on the money list, shot a 77 and must wait two days to see if anyone passes him. Kent Jones (No. 124) had an

Gays to see n anyone passes inn.
Kent Jones (No. 124) had an
even-par 71 and was at 135. Instead of worrying about keeping a
job, he can now think about winning his first tournament. Also at
135 were Kirk Triplett (71),
Vaughn Taylor (65) and Jesper
Parnevik (67).

Among those missing the cut was Masters champion Phil Mickelson after a 76. Lefty has played



Jeff Sluman watches his tee shot on the 10th hole during the second round of the Chrysler Championship on Friday in Palm Harbor, Fla. Sluman finished the round tied for first with Jonathan Byrd at

10-under-par 132.

only twice since the Ryder Cup. He got food poisoning in Las Vegas and had to withdraw after two rounds, and he missed his second cut of the year at Innisbrook. At least he improved from last year, when he shot rounds of

Golden, Park share LPGA lead

JEJU, South Korea — Kate
Golden fired an eight-under-par

Golden fired an eight-under-par

Golden fired an eight-under-par 64 on Saturday to tie South Korea's Grace Park for the lead after a second round in the CJ Nine Bridges Classic.

With a two-day total of 135, Golden and Park were two strokes ahead of Jill McGill of the United States, and Soo-Yum Kang and defending champion Shi Hyun Ahn, both from South

### Agassi reaches first Stockholm Open final

The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Andre Agassi reached the Stockholm Open final for the first time, edging Germany's Tommy Haas 7-6 (5), 7-6 (4) and advancing to the title match against Thomas Johannean

Johansson, a former Australian Open champion, beat 19-year-old countryman Michael Ryderstedt 6-3. 6-2 in the other semifinal.

Johansson won this event four years ago, the last Swede to do so. The top-seeded Agassi won in straight sets for the fourth consecutive match, but this was his toughest. He has beaten Haas two of three times this year.

"Today was very high stamdard," said Agassi, who lost in the quarterfinals in Stockholm in 1989 and 1994. "The first time we played in L.A. people said it was the best match they've seen all year. And then we played the next week (in Toronto) and the people that saw that one and the first said that this one was even better. Now we've played here and this was possibly even better

Haas, seeded fourth, missed much of the 2003 season with a shoulder injury. Two weeks ago, he reached the semifinals in Viena, Austria. After missing 16 months while undergoing two operations, Haas has gone from unranked in the beginning of the year to the top 25.

Neither player was broken in the Agassi-Haas match. Haas, who also won his first three matches in straight sets, had a Sports fin

chance to go up 6-4 in the first tiebreaker but couldn't put away an easy

overhead and lost the point on a wide forehand. Haas missed another forehand, giving Agassi a 6-5 lead. Agassi won the set with a forehand pass.

Agassi never trailed in the second-set tiebreaker, racing ahead 5-1 and winning on his second match point when Haas' forehand sailed wide.

#### Nalbandian vs. Novak in Swiss Indoors final

BASEL, Switzerland — David Nalbandian beat injured Olympic champion Nicolas Massu 6-3, 6-4 Saturday to reach his third straight Swiss Indoors final, setting up a title match against Jiri Novak and keeping alive his bid for the season-ending Tennis Masters Cun.

Novak of the Czech Republic defeated Stefan Koubek of Austria in the other semifinal, sweeping 11 straight games in a 6-4, 6-0 victory

#### Japan's Niida retains WBA minimumweight title

TOKYO — Japan's Yutaka Niida retained the WBA minimumweight title Saturday, beating Venezuela's Juan Landaeta.

Niida used a barrage of punches late in the bout at Ryogoku Kokugikan and outscored interim champion Landaeta on two of three judges' scorecards.





## Vikings seek to avoid another letdown vs. Giants



Minnesota's Daunte Culpepper leads the NFL in touchdown passes (19), guarterback rating (124.0), completion percentage (73.3), and is second in passing yards (1,949).

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS - The Minnesota Vikings were soaring last season, unbeaten in six games until the struggling New York Giants showed up at the end of October and sent them back to sea level

That marked the first of four losses the Vikings had against teams that finished 4-12 — nobody in the league was worse than that. They dropped seven of their final 10 and missed the playoffs

Well, it's a year later and the schedule looks eerily similar.

The Giants are due at the Metro dome on Sunday, with Minnesota (5-1) riding a wave of confidence. Better not let up this time.

"It's something that has been on my mind since the game ended," coach Mike Tice said, reflecting on last season's 29-17 defeat to New York. "This is the time last year where I thought we drifted a little bit, and that ultimately has to come down to me for letting that happen

With that in mind, Tice has been hard on his assistants and players this week, determined to keep the team from slipping with subpar preparation.

"Hopefully it will be a lot better feeling than we had last year, when some said that we embarrassed every body after that particular game Tice said, a not-so-subtle jab at owner Red McCombs, who told the Vikings they humiliated him and their fans following the game.

Giants defensive tackle Fred Rob bins, who played for Minnesota the







.m. Sunday

AFN-Pacific Game time is Central European

past four seasons, had no trouble remembering what happened.

"I am sure they don't want the same thing to happen," Robbins said. We have to go in with the mind-set that we need to get a victory and get back on the winning track

New York (4-2) has matched up well with Minnesota recently, having won three of the past four meetings, starting with a 41-0 romp at Giants Stadium in the NFC championship game after the 2000 regular season.

Last year's Giants finished with eight straight losses, leading to coach Jim Fassel's firing, an overhaul of the offensive line and a new defensive coordinator. Tim Lewis. Though they lost last week to Detroit, the Giants have rebounded under demanding coach Tom Coughlin, thanks largely to a stellar performance by running

He hasn't lost a fumble this year, and his 989 total yards are by far the most in the league. Quarterback Kurt Warner has experienced a bit of a renaissance, throwing just two interceptions in the first six games.

"It's just a great atmosphere right

now," Warner said. "It's been challenging, frustrating at times, coming from the offense in St. Louis ... and trying to adjust my philosophy. But that part has been rewarding.

The one thing hampering New York's offense is an inability to convert long drives into touchdowns. In three possessions inside the Lions' 20-yard line last week, the Giants got just six points.

For the season, New York has turned 21 red-zone trips into only seven touchdowns, the worst percentage in the NFC. "Execution has to be perfect."

Coughlin said. "Everything happens fast, and we haven't had the success that we should have. ... Until we put the ball in the end zone with some kind of consistency, those questions will prevail."

The Vikings' defense is coming off its best showing this season.

The three-point yield against the Ti-tans was the lowest in 98 games. E.J. Henderson is back at middle linebacker after missing two games with a sprained knee, and Minnesota has more speed on that side of the ball this year.

"I see an aggressive defense an attacking defense that does a variety of Warner said. "I haven't seen a lot of big plays given up.'

Minnesota quarterback Daunte Culpepper has 19 touchdown passes, leading the offense to new heights. Randy Moss is expected to play a more meaningful role this week, but his strained hamstring won't be fully

That will keep the pressure on rookie running back Mewelde Moore, who gained a team-record 610 total yards over the past three games.

## Falcons, Broncos strive to erase last week's nightmares

BY EDDIE PELLS

The Associated Press

DENVER - The Denver Broncos were humbled. The Atlanta Falcons were humiliated. Both teams would agree that

their game Sunday can't come soon enough. "You have to be a player to actu-

ally know what it's like to experience something like that," ta quarterback Michael Vick said.

Indeed, Atlanta's 56-10 loss to Kansas City and Denver's 23-10 loss at Cincinnati has left both teams embarrassed about the game that just passed and a bit concerned about what might happen next.

Both teams have spent the past week defending their 5-2 records. their status aton their respective divisions and, most tellingly, their style of football

Atlanta, questions about Vick's effectiveness in the West Coast offense have become more prevalent, Largely considered the most dynamic quarterback in the NFL, he has a passer rating of - 23rd in the league — and just four touchdown passes.

More than that, though, it was the record eight touchdowns rushing the Falcons allowed last week that has shocked people. It was the NFL's top-ranked rushing defense before the Chiefs game. Now the Falcons are ranked



Denver Rroncos

10 p.m. Sunday

AFN-Pacific

ninth, and coach Jim Mora ratcheted things up in practice.

"I think after you get gashed like we did, you have to come back with a little bit of that anger in you, and they need to feel it from me." Mora said.

"I don't know if anger is the right word, but emotion or re-Broncos,

meanwhile.

most.

played the spin game on two fronts after their ugly loss. They admit they were inexplicably unprepared for the Monday night game against the Bengals. But they view it as more of a

The

slin-up than anything drastic. "We learned a lesson from it and we will move on." quarterback Jake Plummer said.

Denver is also in the middle of turmoil about its run blocking, a debate that seems to crop every year, normally around the time a Broncos lineman breaks

someone's ankle with a cut block the way George Foster did to Tony Williams last week. Cut blocks - blocks below a de-

fender's waist - are legal as long as the blocker's helmet is in front of the defender's shoulders

Technically, Foster's block was legal but around the league it was viewed as a cheap shot because Williams couldn't see it coming and because the block had little to do with the play

In an unusually candid moment, coach Mike Shanahan brought reporters into the film room to show examples of the many teams who use cut blocks to make their running game go.

The big difference, Shanahan says, is Denver has been proficient running the ball over the years - in the top five in seven of the past nine seasons — so the Broncos get picked on more than

"The only thing I'm saying is it goes on every week, everywhere in the NFL," Shanahan said. "It's been going on for years and years

The subject is timely this week because the Falcons hired Alex Gibbs as their offensive line coach in the offseason. Gibbs helped shape Denver's running game over the past nine seasons and it figures the Broncos' defenders should be ready.

"You've just got to play hard



Atlanta Falcons' Demorrio Williams (51), Darnell Sanders (88), Warrick Dunn (28), Dez White (89) and Michael Vick (7) were humiliated when the Chiefs set an NFL record by rushing for eight touchdowns.

and figure out ways to defeat it," Mora said, "But I've never had a problem with it. I think you make a huge mistake if you go into a game and you emphasize to your defensive players: 'OK, they are going to cut you down, they are going to chop you.' Because then they don't play hard, they don't play aggressive, and that's the objective of a team that comes out and cuts you down sometimes."

Of course, after last week's debacles, both these teams have much more to worry about than just cut blocking. They both need victories - or at least good performances - to get their promising seasons back on track

"What happens this week is independent of last week." Mora said.

Or, at least he hones so

As do the Broncos

"All you can do is just bounce back the next week. What we do next week is what everybody will be talking about, not what we did last week."

PAGE 31

## Streak-busting upset brewing in Pittsburgh

BY DAVE GOLDBERG

The Associated Press

The New England Patriots might be like no other power-house in NFL history. They almost never dominate, they just al-ways win — a record 21 victories in a row including the postseason. 18 straight in the regular season. Could their run end in Pitts-

burgh on Sunday?

The Steelers are 5-1 and have

won four straight, all with rookie Ben Roethlisberger at quarterback. They also are home and rested after an off week.

By contrast, four of New England's six wins this season have been in Foxboro, where the Pattiots never lose. Their road games were rather sloppy wins at Arizona and Buffalo, teams that have won three games between them. On the other hand ...

On the other hand Roethisberger is due for a bad game at some point, and Bill Belichick and Romeo Crennel are just the coaches to devise a defense that will conflixe a rookie quarterback. That's especially true with a died to the comparison of th

"I'm sure with Ben, they will have a special package for him," says Hines Ward, whose 43 receptions rank sixth in the NFL. Pittsburgh seeks a measure of NFL picks

revenge. The last time the teams played at Heinz Field was the 2001 AFC championship game, when the Patriots upset the favored Steelers 24-17. Drew Bledsoe came on in relief of an injured Tom Brady in what turned out to be his last hurrah as a Patriot.

New England is the favorite this time, by three points.

Favorites have been falling every week. And home underdogs win, especially when they are 5-1.

STEELERS, 17-16.

Baltimore (plus 8½) at Philadelphia: Another upset possibility, even with Jamal Lewis suspended. But Baltimore will be without Jonathan Ogden, too, allowing the Eagles to put even more pressure on the struggling Kyle Boller. ... FAGLES. 17-10.

Miami (plus 7) at New York Jets (Monday night): Before the Dolphins beat the Rams, David Bowens said he expected them to win their final 10 games. Sorry. ... JETS, 19-11.

Indianapolis (minus 2½) at Kansas City: The Chiefs never stopped the Colts last season. The Colts don't stop many people either. ... COLTS, 45-42.

Atlanta (plus 61/2) at Denver:

Another AFC West team that can run against the Falcons. Not 56 points this week, but ... BRON-COS. 27-17.

New York Giants (plus 7) at Minnesota: After the Giants beat the 6-0 Vikings at the Metrodome last season, Mike Tice said: "This game has concerned me over the years, because we don't match up well against the Giants." ... GI-ANTS. 30-28.

Jacksonville (plus 2) at Houston: The Jaguars can't always win in the final minute ... TEXANS, 16-14.

Detroit (plus 3) at Dallas: The road is suddenly magic for the Lions. ... LIONS, 24-20.

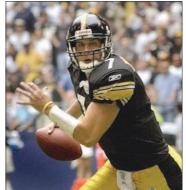
Green Bay (minus 2½) at Washington: The Packers' two best DBs might not play, but does that matter against Mark Brunell? ... PACKERS, 20-9.

Cincinnati (plus 4) at Tennessee: Steve McNair's chest injury is the Titans' biggest concern. Assume he won't play. Or won't play well. ... BENGALS, 20-14.

Carolina (plus 8) at Seattle: With all the Panthers' problems, another Seahawks loss is inconceivable. Or is it? ... SEAHAWKS, 22-16.

Oakland (plus 5) at San Diego: The Chargers can make the playoffs. ... CHARGERS, 31-22.

Arizona (plus 3) at Buffalo: The Cardinals have lost three road games by a total of 13 points. ...



Ben Roethlisberger seeks to go to 5-0 as Pittsburgh's starting QB.

BILLS, 13-9.

San Francisco (plus 2) at Chicago: Tim Rattay is an NFL quarterback. Craig Krenzel, Jonathan

aren't. ... 49ERS, 10-6.

Last week: 5-9 (spread), 8-6 (straight up). Season: 51-49-2 (spread), 67-35

(straight up).

## Vikings WR Moss practices, upgraded to probable

The Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Minnesota Vikings wide receiver Randy Moss was upgraded to probable for Sunday's game against the New York Giants after participating in an entire practice for the first time in nearly two weeks.

NFL briefs "That's big,"
coach Mike
Tice said Friday. "We're
pretty excited."
Moss who

strained his right hamstring in a win at New Orleans on Oct. 17, made a token start last week against Tennessee but played just two snaps as a decoy. He is expected to play a larger rough against the Giants on Sunday, but won't be at full strength for at least two more weeks.

The five-time Pro Bowler leads the Vikings with 394 yards receiving and eight touchdowns this season. He's tied with running back

Play the

Challenge

WIN CASH!

Mondays in Stars and Stripes and on Oconus.com Mewelde Moore for the team lead in receptions with 26. Moss has played in 102 consecu-

Redskins tell rookie Taylor

## to stay home WASHINGTON — A day after

skipping practice following his arrest on a drunken driving charge, Washington Redskins rookie safety Sean Taylor was granted an excused absence Friday. In fact, the team told him to stay away until Monday.

Taylor will be inactive for Sun-

laylor will be inactive for Sunday's game against the Green Bay Packers, the fallout from being charged with driving under the influence and refusing a breathalyzer test after being stopped by a Virginia trooper early Thursday.

Taylor was not at Redskins Park for Friday's practice. Coach Joe Gibbs said the No. 5 overall draft pick will not be at Saturday's walkthrough or Sunday's game

"He's not going to play this weekend, so I think it's good for him from a standpoint of media attention for the team and all that kind of stuff." Gibbs said. "It'd be better for the rest of us to spend the rest of the week concentrating on Green Bay."

The Redskins have to handle Taylor's situation carefully because they can't directly punish him over the charges unless he admits to them or is found guilty. However, Gibbs can penalize Taylor for missing Thursday's practice and team meetings without Taylor was stopped by a state

trooper around 2:45 a.m. Thursday.

The whole episode violated the

No. 1 rule Gibbs gave his players at the beginning of the season:
Don't embarrass the Redskins.
"I realize we're dealing with

"I realize we're dealing with young guys," (Bibbs said. "They make mistakes. In general, we trust them. They're real professional. You've got to be smart. You've got a lot of time to vacation, be with your family or whatever. During the season it's the time when you're trying to be focused on football."

Taylor's absence leaves the Redskins without their two top safeties. Matt Bowen is out for the season with a knee injury, leaving Ryan Clark and Andre Lott — with just seven career NFL starts between them — as the probable starters against the Packers.

#### Cardinals demote OL coach

TEMPE, Ariz. — The Arizona Cardinals reassigned offensive line coach Bob Wylie to scouting duties and promoted first-year assistant Everett Lindsay.

There was no immediate word Friday from Cardinals head coach Dennis Green on why the switch was made heading into Sunday's game at Buffalo.

Lindsay, an offensive tackle for 10 years in the NFL, was cut by the Cardinals on Sept. 6 and retired after playing for Minnesota, Baltimore and Cleveland. He was then hired by Green to help the ofWylie joined Arizona's staff on Jan. 15 after spending five years as Chicago's offensive line coach.

#### Chargers' Tomlinson expected to start SAN DIEGO — Chargers run-

SAN DIFGO — Chargers running back LaDainian Tomlinson practiced Friday and is expected to start against the Oakland Raiders on Sunday. Tomlinson has been bothered

by a strained groin the last three games and failed to gain more than 65 yards in any. Two of Tomlinson's five big-

gest games as a professional came against the Raiders in 2003. He had a career-high 243 yards in a home win in the season finale, and 187 yards in an overtime loss at Oakland on Sept. 28. His backup, Jesse Chatman,

has played well, although he has a turf toe and has been held out of practice. Chatman is listed as probable on the injury report, although coach Marty Schottenheimer said it will be a game-time decision whether he'll play.

Sammy Davis is expected to regain his starting job at right cornerback. Drayton Florence started at right cornerback in last Sunday's win at Carolina, but sprained an ankle.

### Oracle CEO shifts focus from 49ers to getting team in L.A.

SAN FRANCISCO — Billionaire software executive Larry Ellison said Friday that he inquired about buying the San Francisco 49ers only to be told by the cur-

rent owners that the team isn't for sale.

Ellison, the flamboyant chief executive of Redwood Shores-based Oracle Corp., made the disclosure in response to a shareholder question at the software company's annual meeting in Redwood Shores.

The 49ers are currently owned by Denise DeBartolo York and her husband, John York. The couple, who live in Ohio, have become increasingly unpopular in Northern California as the 49ers — a franchise with a record five Super Bowl championships — have deteriorated into a last-place team.

"The Yorks aren't selling, so I'm not buying," Ellison said.

Ellison said he has shifted his football interests to the Los Angeles area, which hasn't had a football team since the Raiders returned to Oakland a decade ago.

Ellison also made it clear Friday that he wants to own a professional sports franchise. He also revealed that he has tried to buy the Golden State Warriors, but was spurned by the basketball team's owner of the last decade, Chris Cohan.

Ellison, 60, ranks among the world's richest men. His stake in Oracle alone is currently worth about \$16 billion

In the sports world, Ellison is best known for his love of yachting. He led a team that unsuccessfully vied for the America's Cup last year.

## **SPORTS**



No. 18 Boise State contains Hawaii quarterback Chang in 69-3 drubbing, Page 26

## **Painting the town Red**

## Sox fans pack Boston streets to celebrate world title

The Associated Press

BOSTON - Hundreds of thousands of Red Sox fans jammed streets and the banks of the Charles River on Saturday to watch a parade many had begun to doubt they would ever wit-

ness: a toast to a World Series champion team. The team that last won the World Series in 1918 was given a victory procession on land and water, winding from the streets near Fenway Park past Boston Common and City Hall

and then onto the Charles aboard 17 of the amphibious vehicles known since World

War II as "ducks ' Pedro Martinez was hit in the forehead by a baseball thrown from the banks of the Charles while riding on a hoat but the star 44 Everu pitcher did not ap-

pear seriously in-Red Sox jured. Some fans stood fan from on the streets and now on river banks - in places as many as 10 can walk to 25 people deep while others stood into atop buildings or waved from win-Yankee dows as the team rode past. Stadium

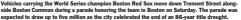
World Series with their MVP Manny Ramirez waved a head high. sign that a fan handed him: "Jeter is playing golf today. Jason Varitek Red Sox catcher This is better!" a reference to Yankees

shortstop Derek Jeter. Other fans tossed brooms in tribute to the four-game sweep of the St. Louis Cardinals Officials extended the 3-mile parade into

the Charles River because of projections that as many as 5 million people would pack the "I've been waiting for this all my life," said

Rich Brantley, 47, of Milford, Conn., who traveled through the night to arrive around 7 a.m. "It's one of the biggest days of my life other than when I got married and had my kids."





Vehicles carrying the World Series champion Boston Red Sox move down Tremont Street along-







breaks hand

Page 27





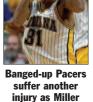
Will Steelers he the team to end Patriots' magical run?





**Newman trying** to transform pole dominance into Atlanta win

Page 26



Left: Boston Red Sox pitchers Derek Lowe and Pedro Martinez cheer along with paradegoers; middle: General Manager Theo Epstein plays to the crowd: right: Fans line the streets of Boston to cheer for the first Red Sox team to win a World Series title since 1918.